

1. **Attendance and Apologies**

Members

Council Staff

Attended as an observer

Apologies

2. **Guests**

3. **Declarations of Interest**

4. **Confirmation of Minutes – 15 March 2021**

A copy of the minutes of the "B" Ward Committee held on 15 March 2021 are included in attachment 1.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 March 2021 be accepted as a true and correct.

5. **General Business**

a) **2021 Local Government Election - Saturday 4 September 2021**

Council would like to provide the following information relating to the upcoming Local Government Election.

The next election for the Ballina Shire Council will be held on Saturday 4 September 2021.

Local government elections in NSW are held every four years. Due to the 2020 election being postponed by a year, the current Council serve for a five year term and the new Council that is elected at the 2021 election will serve for a three year term.

The NSW Electoral Commission manages the Local Government election for Ballina Shire Council. For further information and key election dates or candidate information, visit elections.nsw.gov.au, email candidates@elections.nsw.gov.au or phone the NSW Electoral Commission office on 1300 022 011.

The NSW Government is committed to increasing female representation on our local councils at the local government elections in September 2021. Currently women represent only 31% of all councillors serving across the state. The NSW Government have prepared a fact sheet to highlight the importance of increasing the number of women representing local Councils across the state. A copy of this factsheet is included in attachment 2.

If you would like to know more about becoming a councillor, register to participate in a candidate information session:

- Session One: Monday 7 June - 5.30pm - Ballina Indoor Sports Centre meeting rooms
- Session Two: Tuesday 8 June - 5.30pm - Mullumbimby Civic Centre
- Online session: Date and time to be advised

To register your attendance at one of these sessions please complete the form available on Council's website.

b) Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2021/2022 – 2024/2025

Council has prepared its draft Delivery Program for the four year period from 2021/22 to 2024/25. This document, which includes the draft Operational Plan for 2021/22, outlines items such as:

- the services and key actions planned for 2021/22 to 2024/25
- a summary of the major capital works scheduled for 2021/22 to 2024/25
- our ten year long term financial plan for 2021/22 to 2030/31
- the rates, charges and fees proposed for 2021/22.

Community information sessions have been held at Wardell Memorial Hall and Lennox Head Cultural Centre. A livestream session was also held. The link to this livestream video is <https://vimeo.com/545275630/52de17b0b6>.

c) NRAR - Know your Rules about Water Compliance

Council would like to provide the following information to the Committee.

The Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) has launched its Know the Rules campaign to encourage understanding and compliance on the usage of water.

The campaign will feature a series of short videos, supported by fact sheets and other information on conditions, licences and approvals. These fact sheets can be found: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/natural-resources-access-regulator/resources/know-the-rules-campaign>.

The videos urge water users to check the conditions on their licences and approvals on the NSW Water Register located on the WaterNSW website: <https://www.waternsw.com.au/>.

NRAR has also indicated officers will be at rural field day events including Norco Primex field days.

6. Outstanding Business – 15 March 2021

(a) Hutley Drive Roundabout Traffic

Mike Heeson advised the Hutley Drive roundabout is causing issues for traffic turning right out of Greenfield Road and suggested speed limit be decreased.

Staff Comment

Civil Services further advise that the site has been inspected by the RMS as part of the process to consider the recent changes to the intersections nearby. The Council has access to traffic incident data to support the general observations and monitoring by Council's technical staff. The feedback from the Committee has been noted and the staff advice is that at this stage no further action is required outside continual monitoring.

(b) Dunoon Dam

Ballina Environmental Society would like to know Council's attitude to Dunoon Dam negation and Council's position on adopting strong demand management initiatives for Water Resource delivery for Ballina's Future Needs.

Cr Cadwallader and Cr Williams (as Council's representatives on Rous County Council) provided an overview of the key considerations with water strategy management.

Graham Shaw requested clarification on Council water responsibilities and Rous water responsibilities.

Staff Comment

Civil Services emailed Graham Shaw further particulars on Council's water responsibilities on 8 April 2021.

(c) Tamarind Drive Lighting

Alan Veacock reported a large amount of wildlife being killed on Tamarind Drive, Ballina. Tamarind Drive has lacks street lighting, additional street lighting may reduce the number of animals being hit on the road. Residents of Deadmans Creek Road have erected their own signage to warn drivers to be aware of the wildlife.

Cr Keith Williams agreed that he has also witnessed the tragic road kill on Tamarind Drive.

Staff Comment

Recently approval was provided to install advisory warning signs for animals crossing Deadman's Creek Road. The installation of these signs is now included in the work program for our road maintenance section. This approval, in part, was supported because of the unique aspect of Deadman's Creek Road being rural and immediately adjacent to wetland areas and an urban estate.

The lighting and flooding for Tamarind Drive was also raised by members at the A Ward committee meeting. The information provided to A Ward was that Council's current roads program and street lighting program does not include a project for the illumination of Tamarind Drive. The draft works program approved by Council is currently on public exhibition for comment.

Staff are currently liaising with TfNSW in respect of a study examining aspects of the drainage in this area. This study may assist to identify options to improve the drainage, reducing the tide and flood impacts on Tamarind Drive.

Staff are also finalising environmental approvals to adjust the drain and weir immediately north of the Deadman's Creek Road intersection as this proposed work has been identified to provide improvements. This work will commence after final environmental approval and when ground conditions allow.

In respect of the risks associated with the water on the road, Council manages these risks through warning signage and when the circumstances require, traffic control officers are deployed to increase the warning with flashing lights etc. The deployment of these resources is not limited to day times.

During the recent period of wet weather, the response also included closing Tamarind Drive to non local traffic.

7. **Business with Notice**

(a) Coast Road Speed Limit Reduction

Jonathan King raised concerns about speed limit on The Coast Road, East Ballina (Angels Beach) as children cross to access the bus stop for school. It is also requested Council consider the speed zone be reduced on The Coast Road.

Staff Comment

The following was resolved at Council's Local Traffic Committee meeting held on 14 April 2021:

1. *The Road Safety Officer consult with bus stop users regarding possible removal of J pole and relocation of bus stop.*
2. *Results of TfNSW speed zone review be received.*
3. *After receipt of the speed zone review the bus company be given three months notice of the removal of the J pole and request they relocate the bus stop to Bayview Drive.*

(a) Footpath / Cycle Path – Tamarind Drive

The Cumbalum Residents Association requests an update on the future expansion / duplication of Tamarind Drive in terms of the consideration of incorporating a footpath and cycle path.

Staff Comment

Council has commenced a project to develop a concept design for the Tamarind Drive duplication. This concept design includes the process to plan for how shared path facilities can be integrated into the design. The scope of works for this current stage is limited to Kerr Street to North Creek Road. A report on the concept design is not expected to be completed until September 2021. The concept design project includes a public consultation component which is currently scheduled for July/August.

(b) Vegetation Maintenance – Southern End of Lighthouse Beach

Lorraine Leuckel from Marine Rescue Ballina raised concerns about the overgrown vegetation at the southern end of the Lighthouse Beach has grown so much that it affects their view of the beach, people in the surf and vessels approaching the Ballina bar from the North. A better view enables them to assist in some emergencies.

Staff Comment

The vegetation referred to contains a littoral rainforest, an endangered ecological community, protected under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. It is also integral to the stability of the beach dune system by ensuring deep-rooted structural capacity in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Plan, while assisting with mitigating beach erosion and assisting accretion.

When pruning vegetation, compliance is required with the Australian Standards for Pruning of amenity trees. This standard encourages pruning practices that reduce hazards and premature tree death. Within this procedure, the amount of pruning that can occur is subject to individual tree assessments and is dependent on the species, health, age, condition and location of the vegetation.

Pruning of the species identified, in accordance with the standards, would not result in successfully providing the extent of vision that Marine Rescue is requesting from the tower.

(c) Marine Rescue Tower – Water Damage Update

Lorraine Leuckel from Marine Rescue Ballina requested an update on the action being taken regarding water damage in the Marine Rescue Tower. There is a water stain on the carpet in the radio room which also needs to be addressed.

Staff Comment

Council staff have contacted Jeff Shepherd from Ballina Rescue Tower on 26 April 2021 and he has had a trade representative from Council visit the site. Repair works are still to be completed.

(d) Defibrillator in the Marine Rescue Base Tower – Signage Request

Lorraine Leuckel from Marine Rescue Ballina requested a sign be placed on the walkway on North Wall alerting the public to the fact that there is a defibrillator in the Marine Rescue Base Tower.

Staff Comment

Council preference is for defibrillator signage or defibrillator to be located on the Marine Rescue building, in lieu of additional signage within the reserve.

(e) Temporary Floodlights for Filming – Pat Morton Lookout

Jonathan King raised concerns about the environmental impact of temporary floodlights used on Pat Morton as part of film production.

Staff Comment

Prior to the issuing of Council approval, the production company was required to gain consent from the Cape Byron Marine Park and TfNSW – Marine specifically regarding the use of bright lights and night filming in this environmentally sensitive area.

Cape Byron Marine Park provided approval for the temporary installation of lighting for filming purposes at Pat Morton Lookout, giving specific consideration to turtle nesting season and the impact of lights and filming in this environmentally sensitive location. Council also had environmental monitors on site to ensure compliance with other environmental conditions imposed on the filming event.

(f) 4WD on Seven Mile Beach

Mike Heesom from Lennox Residents Association raised concerns about the 4WD vehicles on Seven Mile Beach. The issues being there are too many vehicles, speeding, harassment and reversing into the dunes disturbing habitat.

Staff Comment

Council continue to monitor and enforce appropriate behaviours in accordance with the adopted Seven Mile Beach 4WD Policy. Council has engaged additional police patrols to supplement regular compliance inspections undertaken by rangers, as well as the use of surveillance cameras to regulate activity.

Council has previously resolved to further consider 4WD usage at Seven Mile Beach as part of the Ballina Coastal Reserve Plan of Management review.

(g) Speed Limit Reduction Update – Lennox Head to Flat Rock

Mike Heesom from Lennox Residents Association would like a status update on the speed limit reduction (from 80km/h to 60 km/h) from Lennox Head to Flat Rock.

Staff Comment

Councils in NSW don't regulate speed limits, this is done by Transport for NSW (TfNSW, formerly RMS, RTA, DMR).

Council has not yet been advised by TransportNSW of any proposed changes to the speed limits to date. This matter has been referred to Traffic Committee which comprises of representatives from RMS, Police and Council.

(h) Airport Take-off Zones

Mike Heesom would like discuss airport take-off zones in particular planes flying over Lennox Head.

Staff Comment

Aircraft arriving and departing Ballina Byron Gateway Airport are not operating under the direction of Air Traffic Control but must apply a number of required safety and company operating procedures when both approaching and departing the aerodrome. Pilots must ensure they operate to avoid conflicting aircraft movements in the area, maintain awareness for terrain and weather conditions, as well as climb rates dependent on aircraft performance and capabilities.

Almost all of the large aircraft traffic that flies to Ballina fly from southern ports. When the wind direction is from a general southern direction, these aircraft will land and takeoff to the south. In the landing phase a majority of these aircraft will have flown up the coast, crossing to over water around Wardell/Evans Head and then will continue past Ballina over water to turn and land to the south. This track occurs in visual conditions. In instrument conditions they will fly over land to the west of the airport and make a right hand turn to land using what is called an RNP Approach.

When a general northerly (wind) conditions exist they will take off towards Lennox Head. The flight path is straight from the airport until over water and at a minimum safe height and then generally a left turn to head back south. However there is an option to make a right turn in visual conditions.

Airline operated aircraft will only use a safe designed procedures that have been assessed by the airlines concerned and considered a Standard Operating Procedure that is predictable and within the flight performance of the aircraft.

(i) 4WDs on Seven Mile Beach

Shaun Eastment advised that in 2020 Lennox Head Residents' Association were informed that concerns about 4WD access to Seven Mile Beach were best addressed as part of the review of the Coastal Reserve Management Plan. The date for this to be finalised was provided as June 2021. Lennox Head Landcare have noted that a separate Policy on 4WD Access to Seven Mile Beach was adopted by Council in September 2020. As Councillors and staff are all aware we, and many others in the community have been waiting for the opportunity to have input into a review. Shaun has requested clarity on how they can provide input.

Staff Comment

Lennox Head Landcare's submission was considered by Council at the September 2020 meeting where it was resolved that the preferred approach to reviewing 4WD access to Seven Mile Beach is through the scheduled review of the Ballina Coastal Reserve Plan of Management (POM).

The review of the Coastal Reserve POM is planned to commence following the completion of the Community Land POM, which is currently pending reporting post exhibition and endorsement by Crown Lands.

The Coastal Reserve POM review will have a formal consultation process to enable the consideration of community feedback.

(j) Lighting guidelines - Dogs in the Coastal Reserve and Biodiversity Strategy

Lennox Head Landcare would like to make a formal expression of thanks to Council staff involved in following up on our requests for action on incorporating The National Lighting Guidelines for Light Pollution and on addressing the non-compliance of dogs on-leash in the Coastal Reserve. Also for the details on preparation of the draft Biodiversity Strategy.

Expression of gratitude was referred to Development and Environmental Health Division.

(k) Paid Parking

Brad Pollard requested information pertaining to the upcoming council report on the installation of paid parking.

Item 4.4 Motion in support of receiving a report on the installation of paid parking and/or smart sensors for improved parking management, with any additional revenue generated to assist in funding increased resources and increased capital infrastructure renewal, with an exemption for Shire residents.

Will the report be focussing just on Lennox or is it a report that considers paid parking and/or parking sensors for the wider shire i.e. including Ballina CBD, Alstonville CBD, popular tourism sites (Pat Morton, Killen Falls etc)?

What is the likely timing of the proposed new car parking contribution plan for Lennox Head?

Are new car parking spaces close to the Lennox CBD being planned for Lennox Head and if so, what is the likely timing of their construction?

It is also requested the following questions be addressed in the report:

- Advantages / Disadvantages: What are the advantages and the disadvantages for Business of introducing paid parking and/or parking sensors?
- Likely Revenue by Town Centre: Can the report indicate which town centres (or tourism sites) are likely to generate the most revenue from paid parking and/or parking sensors i.e. Ballina CBD, Lennox, Alstonville?
- Return on Investment: Ballina Shire towns don't have a constant stream of visitors throughout the year, unlike Byron. While many consider paid parking to have been a success in Byron, given the differences in tourism numbers between Ballina Shire and Byron Shire, does this present issues in terms of return on investment?
- Dividend Reinvestment: If paid parking and/or parking sensors were implemented in Lennox Head, could the financial dividend be invested in Lennox Head or will it go into general revenue and shared by all shire residents?

- New install vs Retrofit: What is the likely cost differential in installing paid parking and/or parking sensors during a town centre upgrade project vs say a retrofit project in Ballina CBD? An argument has been made that these measures be implemented in Lennox first because of the timing of LVV however is the cost differential really that significant?

Staff Comment

The Council resolution to prepare a report on paid parking was for the entire shire, not just Lennox Head.

The resolution is:

That Council receive a report on the installation of paid parking and / or smart sensors for improved parking management, with any additional revenue generated to assist in funding increased resources and increased capital infrastructure renewal, with an exemption for Shire residents.

There is currently no budget allocation for paid parking.

Council staff are currently preparing information to report to June Ordinary Council meeting.

8. **Business without Notice**

9. **Council Documents on Exhibition**

The following is a list of documents currently on public exhibition. The documents can be found on our website at the following link: <https://ballina.nsw.gov.au/documents-on-exhibition--179>

Policies Reviewed

- Investments Policy (Review)

The above policies have been reviewed as part of Council's normal program of reviewing policies.

Other Items

- **2021/22 - 2024/25 Delivery Program and Operational Plan – closing date 28 May 2021**

Council has prepared its draft Delivery Program for the four year period from 2021/22 to 2024/25. This document, which includes the draft Operational Plan for 2021/22, outlines items such as:

- the services and key actions planned for 2021/22 to 2024/25
- a summary of the major capital works scheduled for 2021/22 to 2024/25
- our ten year long term financial plan for 2021/22 to 2030/31
- the rates, charges and fees proposed for 2021/22.

- **Community Donation Programs – closing date 28 May 2021**

Council's draft 2021/22 Operational Plan provides funding through our donations programs to assist community-based groups deliver services to our residents.

Applications are now open for the following donation programs for the 2021/22 period:

- Donations – Financial Assistance for Community Groups
- Donations – Capital Works Assistance for Community Sporting Groups

To be eligible for financial assistance the relevant form below must be completed and returned to Council.

- **Roads Act 1993 - Public Gates – submissions close 21 May 2021**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 128 of the Roads Act 1993, Ballina Shire Council has received an application to erect Public Gates at the following locations:

- Across the unformed public road reserve that extends west from the end of Norman Jones Lane, Wollongbar
- Across the unformed public road reserve that extends east from the end of Chesworth Lane, Wollongbar.

A period of one month from the date of publication of this notice is allowed during which time any person may lodge a written submission with Council.

Items on Exhibition after March 2021 Meeting – closed

- **Ballina Shire Development Control Plan 2012 – closed 16 April 2021**

Draft Amendment Chapter 2 General and Environmental Considerations - Part 3.6 – Mosquito Management Provisions

The Draft Amendment involves a revision of the development controls relating to mosquito management to reflect contemporary understandings of mosquito risk and mitigation.

The review of the DCP provisions has been undertaken in association with mosquito specialist Associate Professor Cameron Webb.

- **Tuckombil Quarry Site - Opportunities Assessment: RFQ1466 – closed 6 April 2021**

Quotations for the development of options for the future use of the Tuckombil Quarry site.

- **Road Name Proposal** – closed 2 April 2021

Ballina Shire Council proposes to name the following road in accordance with the Roads Act 1993. Location: Un-named lane between northern sections of Gibbon and Stewart Streets, Lennox Head. Proposed Road Name: Burrows Lane. Name Origin: Named after John Semple Burrows, as proposed by remaining family still living on family property adjacent to un-named lane, and supported by Lennox Head Heritage Committee.

- **Ballina Shire Development Control Plan 2012 - Draft Amendment No.14 - Chapter 7 Rural Living and Activity – Rural Function Centres** – closed 31 March 2021

The Draft Amendment introduces special development controls which address matters of site suitability and the management of events/functions in relation to function centres (including wedding venues) on land zoned RU2 Rural Landscape zone under the Ballina Local Environmental Plan 2012.

The Draft Amendment relates to the recently approved Rural Function Centres Planning Proposal, adopted by Council at the Ordinary Meeting of 25 February 2021, to amend the Ballina Local Environmental Plan 2012. The amendment will be on exhibition from 3 March 2021 to 31 March 2021.

Site suitability criteria proposed in the Draft Amendment include the consideration of acoustic assessments (to be undertaken by qualified acoustic consultants), traffic impact assessments and rural land use conflict assessments.

The event management provisions include requirements and guidance with respect to the preparation of a site management plan addressing matters such as the transport of guests to and from the site, hours of operation, notification of neighbours, and other measures to mitigate environmental impacts and the potential for land use conflicts to arise.

10. **Next Meeting**

Monday 19 July 2021 - 4.30 pm.

Attachment 1

Ballina Shire "B" Ward Committee Minutes 15 March 2021 – 4.30 pm

1. Attendance and Apologies

Members

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

Lorraine Leuckel - Marine Rescue Ballina
Lou Wilson - Lennox Head Alstonville Surf Life Saving Club
Brad Pollard - Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce (via Zoom)
Alan Veacock - Cumbalum Residents Association Inc.
Mike Heesom - Lennox Head Landcare
Claudia Caliarì - Ballina Environment Society
Graham Shaw – Ballina Environment Society

Council Staff

Kelly Brown - Director Corporate and Community Division
Janelle Snellgrove – Secretary
Rachael Jenner - Acting Manager Public and Environmental Health

Apologies

John Truman - Director Civil Services Division
John Bout - Summerhill Residents Group (Observer)
Cathy Byrne - Ballina Coastcare
Shaun Eastment - Lennox Head Residents Association
Jim Gilchrist – Preserving Lake Ainsworth Association

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

That the Minutes of the "B" Ward Committee held on 16 November 2020 be taken as read and confirmed. (Lou Wilson / Claudia Caliarì)

4. Outstanding Business – 16 November 2020

(a) Plant Identification Training

Cathy Byrne requested plant identification training and strategies for weed management of specific species for Coastcare members, particularly for new members. Requested Council consider assisting by enabling Council nursery staff meet with Coastcare members regularly at different sites for an hour for a sustained period of several months in 2021.

Claudia Caliarì requested Ballina Environment Society be involved in the training also.

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Staff Comment

Council's Manager Open Spaces has confirmed that training will be coordinated in 2021. Further information on training program and dates will be provided to Ballina Coastcare and Ballina Environmental Society.

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

(b) Green Waste Service for Businesses in Lennox Head

Brad Pollard raised concerns for cafe businesses in Lennox Head relating to affordability of Green Waste Services.

Staff Comment

Samala Heart, Council's Waste Education Officer has been in contact with Brad Pollard and working closely on waste reduction measures to support food businesses. A copy of the Lennox Head Public Place Bin review has been provided.

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

(c) Hutley Drive Roundabout Traffic

Mike Heeson advised the Hutley Drive roundabout is causing issues for traffic turning right out of Greenfield Road and suggested speed limit be decreased.

Staff Comment

Since the last B Ward Committee meeting the intersection has been observed on a number of occasions in both am and pm peak conditions and no significant issues were observed for traffic turning right out of Greenfield Road. At times there were delays for turning traffic waiting for safe gaps in the traffic stream on Byron Bay Road. However the delays were not considered to be unreasonable. It is understood that delays can sometimes induce frustration in drivers behaviour and they sometimes take unsafe decisions in their gap selection to conduct right turns.

The presence or otherwise of safe gaps in the Byron Bay Road traffic stream is not related to the installation of the Hutley Drive Roundabout as the traffic using the new roundabout is diverted traffic that previously used North Creek Road and there is a net zero impact on traffic numbers on Byron Bay Road from the new roundabout. There is however a net growth of traffic on Byron Bay Road due to the ongoing urban and commercial development of the Pacific Pines/Epiq urban release area and general growth in the Ballina/Lennox Head areas.

Speed Limits are not a responsibility of Councils in NSW as they are regulated by Transport for NSW. However from observation, the speed limit of 80kph on Byron Bay Road seems appropriate for an arterial town bypass road of this nature.

Mike Heeson requested that Council approach RMS regarding reduction in speed zone and that Council undertake further ongoing monitoring occurs as

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there have been two minor accidents turning out of Greenfield Road into The Coast Road since the November meeting.

Action: Civil Services to report matter back to Traffic Committee and to implement ongoing monitoring.

(d) Road Damage – Ballina Heights Drive

Alan Veacock commented on the large number of heavy vehicles using Ballina Heights Drive causing road damage. Alan requested Ballina Heights Drive be reconstructed and not just repatched.

Staff Comment

Since the last B Ward Committee meeting Council's Development Engineer has inspected the damage and determined the damage to be pavement failure and not related to development activities.

Council's Roads Assets Engineer conducted an inspection and advised Council is planning to include heavy patching works in this year's heavy patching program. This should be completed in May-June 2021.

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

(e) Flathead Lane, Cumbalum

Alan Veacock requested an update on Flathead Lane, Cumbalum.

Staff Comment

A report was provided to the December 2020 Council meeting. Council resolved:

1. That Council notes the contents of this report regarding the cost and feasibility of constructing Barlows Road between River Street and Tamarind Drive.
2. That Council authorises the expenditure of approximately \$12,000 on further traffic modelling and related works to assist in determining the cost / benefits of constructing Barlows Road, with this expenditure to be funded from adjustments to existing budgets, as identified by the General Manager and reported to Council in the December 2020 Quarterly Financial Review.
3. That Council gives priority to this project.

Kelly Brown advised the Traffic modelling has commenced with Council staff aiming to report on this matter to Council within the next few months.

(f) Planning for Wildlife Corridors

Shaun Eastment sought confirmation that the Planning for Wildlife Corridors would be undertaken as part of the Biodiversity Strategy.

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Staff Comment

Staff are in progress of consolidating information to progress the Ballina Biodiversity Strategy. This strategy will include a range of actions and it is anticipated that Wildlife Corridors will likely be an important action recommended in the Ballina Biodiversity Strategy.

The committee noted that Council expects to refine the draft strategy through informed consultation to begin within the year.

5. **Business with Notice from Members**

(a) **Stormwater Pond/Reserve Maintenance (Ballina Heights)**

The Cumbalum Residents Association have received numerous concerns from many residents in relation to the increase in plastic rubbish and weed growth in the storm water pond in Campbell's common. These concerns have been lodged as formal complaints to Council on numerous occasions by these residents (eg. email to Ballina Council by Hans Wohlmuth on 14 June 2020) and to our knowledge the Council has not taken any action to remedy the problem as yet. The Cumbalum Residents Association demands that Ballina Shire Council immediately attend to the regular maintenance/cleanup of the pond and develop a maintenance plan in order to keep the pond clean.

The committee were advised that the maintenance of stormwater ponds is cyclic, and significant cleaning is required to reinstate storage and retention capacity at intervals determined by the environmental conditions, and likely to span a number of years. A review of the basin last year indicated significant cleaning is not required as yet however the rubbish removal has occurred.

With respect to weed growth around the perimeter of the ponds and along the inlet waterway a campaign was undertaken some time ago for selective treatment of weed growth. The site has been inspected and quotations are now being sourced for another round of weed maintenance.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(b) **Aldi Carpark Traffic Safety**

The Cumbalum Residents Association requests an update on Council's progress in improving traffic safety at the Aldi carpark (turning right onto North Creek Road, Ballina).

The committee were advised that the matter dealing with the entry and exit at the Aldi car park has previously been raised by B Ward members and has also been reported to the Local Traffic Committee and to Council. This reporting during 2019 noted that the upgrade of North Creek Road between Tamarind Drive and Southern Cross Drive is included in the Roads Contribution Plan.

Under this plan the upgrade is scheduled for the 2019-2028 period, and comprises a four lane upgrade with a central median. This would provide for a left-in and left-out traffic arrangement at Aldi. During the consideration of the 2019/20 Delivery Program and Operational Plan (27 June 2019 Ordinary meeting of Council) an option to provide funding for an interim/temporary central

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median was presented. This meeting did not allocate funds for this interim/temporary measure, which at the time was estimated at \$50,000.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(c) Ballina Heights Shopping Centre Precinct

The Cumbalum Residents Association feel the inclusion of a shopping precinct in the Ballina Heights Estate has been falsely advertised by developers but there has been very little progress. Cumbalum Residents Association request an update on steps Council is taking to facilitate/expedite the progress of the shopping precinct development in Cumbalum and how Council plans to hold developers accountable for amenities it has and continues to advertise in selling land that haven't been provided.

The committee were advised that Staff have been engaging with the development proponents in the Cumbalum area in relation to the provision of commercial services in the area, including a supermarket.

The owner of the existing commercial zoned land in the Ballina Heights Estate has indicated an intention to advance a development for commercial purposes on the land.

A Councillor briefing was held in February 2021 which included an overview of the developer's intended approach to the development of the site for commercial purposes. Staff are now liaising with the developer to work through the details of the approach. There are a number of steps required to progress the development of the land including the need for a development application.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(d) Ballina Heights Graffiti

The Cumbalum Residents Association wanted to ensure Council was aware of the large amount of graffiti on the western retaining wall at Ballina Heights and would like to know when it will be removed.

The committee were advised that this retaining wall is still under the responsibility of the developer. Council's Town Planner has contacted the developer and requested they have the Graffiti removed.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(e) Climate Emergency Program

The Ballina Environmental Society would like to know the progress on Climate Program and Timeline.

The committee were advised that Council are preparing a draft Climate Policy, aiming to report the draft to Council March 2021. Kelly also provided a brief overview of procedure and actions Council has been undertaking to support our commitment to Climate Emergency Declaration.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

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(f) Dunoon Dam

Ballina Environmental Society would like to know Council's attitude to Dunoon Dam negation and Council's position on adopting strong demand management initiatives for Water Resource delivery for Ballina's Future Needs.

Cr Cadwallader and Cr Williams (as Council's representatives on Rous County Council) provided an overview of the key considerations with water strategy management.

Graham Shaw requested clarification on Council water responsibilities and Rous water responsibilities.

Action: Council staff to contact Graham Shaw to provide further particulars on Council's water responsibilities.

(g) Healthy Water Ways Program

Ballina Environmental Society request Council provide a report on the Water Clean Up Program for the Richmond River.

Rachel Jenner advised that Council is currently engaged in a number of projects focused on the health of the waterways in Ballina Shire (part of Council's healthy waterways program). These include projects at Shaws Bay (improvements works); Lake Ainsworth (foreshore restoration); Keith Hall (floodplain drainage investigations) and Emigrant Creek (revegetation works). Council is also proceeding with the preparation of a hydrological assessment for North Creek to inform management actions.

Progress in relation to key healthy waterways programs is reported to Council on a quarterly basis through Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan reporting.

Graham Shaw requested clarification on the progress on Richmond River water quality.

Rachael Jenner advised the Healthy Waterways strategy is draft but appears to be very close.

Cr Wright suggested this could be a 20 year program.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(h) National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife

Lennox Head Landcare were informed by Council last year that they had written to Essential Energy as a first step in pursuing this issue. Lennox Head Landcare would like an update on the response from Essential Energy.

The committee were advised that at this point, there has been no response from Essential Energy (EE) to recommend lights which meet the guidelines which we can use and they will maintain. Any change to align with new guidelines must also be assessed against the existing Australian Standards to ensure an

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adequate (risk management) assessment has been included as part of the process.

Council has also been looking at lighting options for the Lennox CBD project and how new light styles/types can meet the new guidelines and provide adequate lighting that also meets the standard. The design for Lennox uses the lowest temperature light and also meets 'black sky' objectives as outlined in the guidelines. This design has been approved by Essential Energy for the Lennox CBD project.

For a broader use solution, the key issues are:

- a. There are lights which produce light at different temperatures/wavelengths and are designed to minimise the impacts on wildlife. There is not a specific suite of lights that have been endorsed by Essential Energy, so if Council uses lights that haven't been endorsed by Essential Energy, we will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance.
- b. Some of these alternative lights are unable to meet the current lighting standards and Council will need to assess if a solution can be found that is adequate.
- c. If Council uses an alternative solution, say specific light and solar powered, then this arrangement would stay as Council's asset.

The information provided at the meeting was noted. Mike Heesom further added that Sean Eastment was wanting to ensure that this is progressing.

(i) Off-Leash Dogs in the Ballina Coastal Reserve

Lennox Head Landcare raised the issue of dogs off-leash in the Ballina Coastal Reserve between Pat Morton Lookout and Sharpes Beach. Ballina Shire Council and Lennox Head Landcare have been working for over 20 years to revegetate this part of the Coastal Reserve and establish viable wildlife habitat and Council have designated it as a "dog on-leash" zone to compliment this. Unfortunately there is a growing culture of taking dogs off-leash. We have all experienced the enormous resources of staff time that it takes to turn this sort of culture around once it becomes embedded (consider the Flat Rock/Angels Beach experience for example). Already there are numerous stories of wildlife being harassed by off-leash dogs in this part of the Reserve including a wallaby being chased off the top of Lennox Point and another being pursued through the bush at the back of Boulders Beach.

A previous response to this issue being raised was along the lines of "our rangers will continue with current practice". This clearly isn't doing the job required and a comprehensive plan of action needs to be developed. We would like to know that Council staff have taken this issue on board and are developing such a plan with the intention of implementing it in the very near future. We envision it would require steps such as reviewing the signage location, visibility and messaging; educating both our growing population and our visitors on the benefits of compliance, monitoring infringements and penalising them.

Rachael Jenner advised that clear, legible signs have been ordered for every coastal pathway entrance. Council will continue to educate dog owners and Rangers will police these areas. Cameras are being installed to monitor behaviours in this area.

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The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(j) Biodiversity Strategy

In December Lennox Head Landcare received the following progress update:

"Staff are in progress of consolidating information to progress the Ballina Biodiversity Strategy. This strategy will include a range of actions and it is anticipated that Wildlife Corridors will likely be an important action recommended in the Ballina Biodiversity Strategy. At this stage, a timeframe for public exhibition has not yet been determined".

Lennox Head Landcare would like to be informed of what progress has been made since December, specifically:

- what information has been / is yet to be gathered
- what further steps need to be taken before the Strategy is ready for public exhibition
- what the aspirational timeline is for this process.

The committee were advised that the Biodiversity Strategy will identify a range of actions urgently needed to plan for and protect biodiversity. The actions and objectives are being consolidated through an extensive literature review of adopted/revised regional and local government strategies specific to biodiversity and conservation. This process aims to foster alignment with regional programs and resource sharing opportunities - key concepts of effective natural resource management.

Council envisions that prior to public exhibition, a draft will be circulated amongst a range of key stakeholders with expertise in biodiversity and conservation matters. This will include subject matter experts like Landcare Groups.

Council expects this process to refine the draft strategy through informed consultation to begin within the year.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(k) Beach Pathway Weeding

Ballina Coastcare have received several complaints about weeds along the pathway from Flat Rock to Sharpes Beach. Ballina Coastcare weed as much as they can, request council be more active to enable the group to focus on planting.

The committee were advised that Council are currently reviewing service levels for maintenance and management of vegetation along coastal pathways. Open spaces to be contacted to discuss further.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

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(l) Traffic Hazard

Cathy Byrne would like to raise the traffic hazard on the northern end crest of Pacific Terrace, East Ballina. Buses use this road and it is currently congested with parked vehicles, some related to current tradie workers but also the caravan that occasionally uses the street to park. Raz Burtonwood's old vehicle is street parked at this crest. Cathy is concerned there will be an accident. Cathy requests the crest speed limit be reduced, road widened or "no parking" signs be erected at the crest.

The committee were advised that Council's Engineers advised Transport for NSW sets speed limits and uses a standard 50 km/h for residential areas, there are only limited circumstances where they alter this i.e. high pedestrian areas such as Ballina and Lennox CBDs. In relation to the other modifications suggested Council prioritises its road safety improvement actions based on black spot data (numbers of accidents in the last 5 years). The sites with the most recent accidents are the highest priority for implementation of road safety improvements. Pacific Terrace has no accident history recorded so is not a priority site.

Council's Rangers can investigate and take action in relation to illegal parking, if occurring.

The information provided at the meeting was noted.

(m) Public Bins – Bellevue Avenue, East Ballina

Ballina Coastcare have requested Council return the public bins to Bellevue Avenue, East Ballina and the overpass to reduce the amount of dog waste bags being thrown into the bush, which Ballina Coastcare then have to remove.

The committee were advised that:

Angels Beach Overpass Bin:

The Angels Beach overpass bin were removed mid-2018, as the bin did not meet the criteria for public bin placement at that time. The bins location required it to be transferred an unsafe distance to/from the collection vehicle. The bin also reportedly captured a high incidence of illegally dumped household waste. Following a subsequent inquiry, a Public Bin Location Assessment was undertaken in Sept 2020, the outcome of this assessment was that a bin was not justified at this location due to a combination of the following reasons:

- There was no evidence of ground litter along the entire walkway from Silver Gull Drive to the beach.
- The optimum location for a bin would be at the footbridge, which exceeds the safe transfer distance to the collection point.
- Installing a bin closer to the road could result in residential dwellings being impacted by any associated issue, including odour from bin contents.
- A bin in this secluded location may attract anti-social behaviour, resulting in illegal dumping, bin fires, bin contents being thrown off the overpass etc.

The recommendation by staff is to maintain a no bin policy and look at other methods to mitigate littering.

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The Coast Road Bin – Intersection with Bellevue Avenue, East Ballina:

The Coast Road Bin was historically provided at the request of a local Landcare/Dunecare Group, to assist them with the collection/disposal of weeds and to capture dog defecation, which they identified as a litter issue. The bin was removed prior to 2018, as it reportedly captured a high incidence of illegally dumped household waste and very little recreational waste. The bins location may have also been a contributing factor, as it was considered unsafe in a previous assessment.

The recommendation by staff is to undertake a 'Public Bin Location Assessment' to determine if a bin is justified.

The information provided at the meeting for Angels Beach Overpass and The Coast Road bin was noted.

6. Business without Notice

(a) Coast Road Speed Limit Reduction

Graham Shaw raised concerns about speed limit on The Coast Road, East Ballina (Angels Beach). Graham is concerned about children crossing to access the bus stop for school. Would like Council to consider the speed zone on The Coast Road be reduced from 80kms/hr to 60kms/hr.

The Mayor advised that this matter was on the last Traffic Committee agenda and was being considered by the Traffic Committee.

(b) Lennox Head/Alstonville Surf Life Saving Club Update

Lou Wilson reported on another successful end of surf club season. It was a great year for nippers and titles and an increase in nippers numbers.

The club is continuing to work with Council about building issues.

Lou thanked Council and the community for their support.

The Mayor, Cr Cadwallader and Cr Williams acknowledged the great work undertaken by the Club.

(c) Climate Change

Graham Shaw raised concerns about Council's response to the Climate Change Action Plan. Ballina Environment Society notes it has been voted that we have a climate emergency end of 2019. Graham enquired if Council subscribe to Climate Change Publications.

Kelly brown advised Council has staff who focus on this area (including monitoring professional publications or government updates) and have implemented many actions such as street lighting replacement, electric cars and solar projects. In addition, Council is currently reviewing the climate action strategy which will be reported to Council.

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Council reports progress with actions quarterly to Council the delivery program actions and indicators. The reports are located on Council's website.

The Mayor acknowledged the great outcomes that Council has achieved and suggested that we could consider promoting this great work through Council's Community Connect Publication.

Action: Corporate and Community Division to arrange for updates on environmental / climate change action projects and actions to be included in Council's Community Connect publication.

(d) Tamarind Drive Lighting

Alan Veacock reported a large amount of wildlife being killed on Tamarind Drive, Ballina. Tamarind Drive has lacks street lighting, additional street lighting may reduce the number of animals being hit on the road. Residents of Deadmans Creek Road have erected their own signage to warn drivers to be aware of the wildlife.

Cr Keith Williams agreed that he has also witnessed the tragic road kill on Tamarind Drive.

Action: Civil Services to investigate additional signage and lighting for Tamarind Drive.

(e) Marine Tower – Drainage Risk

Lorraine Lueckel raised concerns of a sink hole near the Marine Tower that could potentially be dangerous to the public. The concern is for children and water from the hole.

Action: Kelly Brown to investigate sink hole causes and risk mitigation requirements.

Post Meeting Update

Council's Coordinator Risk Management attended the Marine Tower site and identified an area filled with crusher dust. There was no immediate risk identified as the area was solid to walk on. However, further investigation is required on the causation. An investigation request has been tasked to Civil Services to further investigate the cause of the possible sink hole.

(f) Lennox Head Events

Brad Pollard advised Love Lennox event is unlikely to be held however they are proceeding with the Networking Event.

Brad Pollard advised the business community are concerned that Lennox Head won't be able to hold large events due to what happened with World Surf League (WSL) unless an agreed framework or guidelines are developed for future proposals. It was acknowledged that there are existing event guidelines established by Council however the tight timeframes impacted on the outcomes.

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Mike Heesom thanked council for cancelling the event due to the limited time provided to the community to comment.

Cr Wright reiterated that council staff did not have a chance to assess the event proposal due to tight timeframes.

(g) Cumbalum Interchange Update

Cr Wright advised that he has had a meeting with Minister Toole as part of the Pearces Creek Bridge replacement funding received by Council.

Whilst onsite with the Minister, an opportunity was taken to discuss Cumbalum Interchange. Agreement was reached for the Minister to come talk to our staff in the next two weeks about the requirements for the interchange and drainage for this area.

Alan Veacock expressed his appreciation on the support provided by Council in this area.

(h) Service NSW Vouchers

Cr Cadwallader reminded the committee about Service NSW vouchers.

7. Council Documents on Exhibition

The list of documents currently on public exhibition was noted.

8. Next Meeting

Monday 17 May 2021 – 4.30 pm

9. Meeting closure

5.50 pm

Attachment 2

ELECTION OF WOMEN TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT



The NSW Government is committed to increasing female representation on our local councils at the local government elections on 4 September 2021.

Currently women represent only 31 per cent of all councillors serving on our 128 local councils across the State.

Are you ready to make a difference and stand for your community?

Women from all walks of life are being encouraged to put their hand up for election to help ensure local councils are representative of the communities they represent and serve.

What do councils do?

Local councils are the level of government closest to the community.

They provide key infrastructure, facilities and services to local residents and are integral to improving the lifestyle and amenity of local communities.

What does a councillor do?

Councillors represent their local community's needs, wants and aspirations.

Elected representatives make important decisions on behalf of their local community.

They help make sure our suburbs, towns and cities grow and prosper now and into the future.

Why should I become a councillor?

Women from all walks of life have an exciting opportunity to work with their local residents and businesses and make a real difference to their local community.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

4 September 2021

www.olg.nsw.gov.au



ELECTION OF WOMEN TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

What qualities do I need to be a successful councillor?

You don't need any formal qualifications to be a councillor.

However, you do need to be ethical, open and honest.

The following attributes are also helpful:

- Keen to learn
- Communication skills
- Time management and organisational skills
- Problem solving skills
- Teamwork skills.

It's also important to talk to your family and friends about how you would balance your work and personal commitments. Councillors are required to read council business papers, attend meetings and represent their council at events.

What training and support will I receive if I am elected?

The NSW Government has introduced mandatory induction and professional development training for councillors.

Councillors will benefit from induction training after the election and an ongoing professional development program over the term to help them acquire and maintain the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their roles.

The training programs are designed to ensure mayors and councillors understand their responsibilities and are supported to perform their roles effectively.

Councillors also receive an annual fee from their council.

Councils also provide equipment and expenses to help councillors carry out their role. These can include computers, telephones, travel, conferences, and care for dependents such as children.

How do I stand for election?

Eligibility requirements include:

- You must be at least 18 years old and an Australian citizen
- Live or own, lease or occupy property in the council area
- Be on the electoral roll for the council area.

The NSW Electoral Commission can provide further information about requirements for election nominations and running a campaign.



Where can I go for more information?

NSW Office of Local Government
www.olg.nsw.gov.au

NSW Electoral Commission
www.elections.nsw.gov.au

Local Government NSW
www.lgnsw.org.au

Australian Local Government Women's Association NSW Branch
www.algwa.org.au

