

**Minutes of the 'A' Ward Committee Meeting  
Held 13 September 2011  
In the Committee Rooms, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina**

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**Time Commenced**

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm.

**1. Attendance and Apologies**

*Attendance*

Cr Robyn Hordern	Councillor
Cr Sue Meehan	Councillor
Cr Alan Brown	Councillor
Cr Phillip Silver	Mayor
Glenn Costello	Ballina Chamber of Commerce
Allan Hart	Paradise FM
Margaret Hains	Ballina Day View Club
Mary O'Brien	Lighthouse Day Club
George Young	Ballina Lions Club
Betty Barwick	Ballina CWA
Andrew Playford	Ballina High School & East Ballina Lions Club
Neil Denison	Ballina Environment Society
Lorraine Leuckel	South Ballina Beach Community Association

*Council Staff in Attendance*

John Truman	Group Manager Civil Services
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*Apologies*

Dr Lee Andresen	Ballina Environment Society
Pip Carter	St Andrews Ballina
Sheila Aveling	Paradise FM

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Deputations**

There were no deputations.

**4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 July 2011 were accepted as a true and correct record.

**5. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

Wedding Policy

John Truman advised the Committee that a Council report had been prepared for the purpose of reviewing the policy. The report recommends that Council examine the Fawcett Park/Captain Cook Park issue with the Chamber of Commerce.

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Tweed Street Maintenance

John Truman confirmed that a maintenance request had been made to the staff regarding potholes at this location.

Service Club Signage

John Truman reported the following update from Council's Tourism section regarding community signage.

*In June 2011, Council resolved to halt work on the town and village signage project until a Councillor Workshop was held. The workshop resulted in some new designs being put forward, however to date, consensus has not been achieved on a way forward. This has resulted in a delay for the entire project, including the Local Community Information Boards. Part of the project also includes reference to an online Community Directory which will feature detailed information on community service organisations/clubs. This project has also been delayed due to glitches in software. The General Manager has advised that he would like to move forward with this project regardless of the town and village sign design, and to this end, the promotional and interpretive signage taskforce will ensure this project is complete in the very near future.*

Defibrillator Signage

John Truman reported that Council would have to decline the request to install directional signage. The reasons for this is the sign does not meet the requirements of the RTA or Council's insurer. A letter confirming Council's response has been sent to Don Page.

The alternate option for the community to research is the use of private land for the signage, subject to meeting the requirements of Council's Development Control Plan.

It was also suggested that Council could raise awareness of the location of the defibrillator through its corporate communications, particularly the publications circulating in Wardell.

Clark Street Intersection

John Truman confirmed that the Council's Section 94 Roads Plan included a project to improve the traffic arrangements at this intersection. A letter of confirmation will be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce.

**6. Items raised by Members of the Committee**

Nil

**7. General Business**

Nil

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**8. Council Documents on Exhibition**

The list of previously advertised documents were discussed. This information was noted by the Committee.

**9. Business Without Notice**

Alan Hart

- Noted the diversity of the business completed by the Committee at its last meeting.
- Congratulated Council on the redevelopment of Ballina Airport.
- Advised that Paradise FM is currently preparing for licence renewal and would be seeking references from Council and community organisations to support the application.

Lorraine Leuckel

- Requested a bin be located at the Ferry access on the South Ballina side.

John Truman advised that a response to this request had been provided to Cr Meehan previously by email. A copy of that response follows.

*"I am writing in response to your inquiry about placing a bin at the South Ballina side of the ferry.*

*As per my earlier email, I have sent a request to staff to inspect and advise. Their response follows.*

*I have spoken to the drivers and we cannot see the need to provide a bin on the southern side of the ferry as there is one on the Northern side that gets serviced Mon / Weds / Fri. This bin very rarely is overfull and is not one recognised as being a problem.*

*The other problem is as our truck travels south only across the ferry as it continues down to Pimlico and comes back on the Pacific hwy, This would mean that the bin stand would require the truck to stop on the middle of the road and jump out and unlock the bin, empty the bin and replace the bin back into the stand , jump back into the truck and proceed on his way.*

*The truck has no spot to pull off the road to service this bin which creates OHS issues.*

*Also this bin will become in my opinion an opportunity bin for people to fill it up with household waste.*

*Based on this advice, regretfully on this occasion I am reluctant to agree to the request. Please contact me if you wish to discuss this matter further."*

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The Committee also requested that Council consider placing no littering signs at this location.

Margaret Hain

- Noted the excellent progress on the Ballina Bypass.

George Young

- Presented a letter, copy attached expressing concerns regarding pedestrian safety in West Ballina.

In response John Truman advised that the Council had recently adopted a revision of its Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan (PAMP). The PAMP was prepared following a process that identifies accident history and demand generation to allow the Council to identify a works program and prioritise the projects. In response to this plan, the Council has adopted a ten year works program for footpaths based on current budget predictions. John also reported that the pedestrian accident rates recorded for the Shire had significantly declined over the five years since the adoption of the first PAMP and this result was considered a direct response to the targeting of works to the locations with the highest recorded accident history.

John also advised that the Council had a footpath inspection and maintenance program. These arrangements were the subject of a recent audit by Council's insurer and are considered to be compliant with best practice guidelines and provide Council with a basis for a defence for public liability claims. The reporting by the community of specific hazards is encouraged to enable our inspection and review.

Further to this the Council has a road safety program. This program seeks to implement the actions in Council's Road Safety Strategic Plan.

The Mayor also reported that any impacts to pedestrian amenity and safety generated by the proposed child care facility at Porter Park will be mitigated by development consent conditions or land lease requirements.

Finally, John noted that Council had completed footpath works in West Ballina on the Pacific Highway, Kalinga Street and Burns Point Ferry Road and that the new cycleway had been designed in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards.

Betty Barwick

- Requested mowing and drainage maintenance in the road reserve at 18 Crane Street Ballina.

Mary O'Brien

- Requested the installation of handrails in the toilets at the Richmond Room to assist elderly patrons.

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Glenn Costello

- Congratulated Council on the handrail and shared path project at West Ballina.
- Reported that the Jockey Club is seeking to establish a museum to commemorate the contributions of female jockeys to the racing industry and was requesting support to assist in grant applications.

The Committee expressed its support for this project and encouraged member organisations to provide their own endorsement in writing to the Jockey Club.

Andrew Playford

- Noted that the Richmond Room was too small for the recent NORTEC Expo and called on Council to develop a civil hall project.
- Noted that the East Ballina Lions Club was a finalist for a State Award for regional events for the East Ballina Markets.
- Congratulated Ballina Public School for 150 years and thanked Council for supporting the celebrations.
- Asked did students on the Ballina Youth Council represent themselves or the School. The response was that they represent themselves. Roberto Kenk is the Council officer contact for further enquiries.
- Reported that Biala will now be charged \$75.00 for Council to test their swimming pool and requested Council review that decision.

Neil Denison

- Asked can Council supply traps for Indian Myna.
- Requested that the speed zone signage for Pimlico Road be reviewed as different zones apply for each direction of travel and that it is unclear what the zone is as you enter the road from the highway.

Cr Alan Brown

- Noted that the Council had commenced a program for fire hydrant maintenance.
- Suggested that State Government should assist with providing funds for the footpaths in West Ballina.

Cr Sue Meehan

- Reported on the progress of the removal of the Champor Laurel trees in Crane Street as part of the project to re-establish the War Memorial.

A copy of the plan for the memorial was requested and this is attached to these minutes.

John Truman indicated he would advise what species was selected. The advise is Waterhousea Floribunda "Green Avenue" - picture attached.

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Cr Phillip Silver

- Reported that the RTA is seeking feedback on the proposal for a rest area at the Teven Interchange and that Council would be making a submission to encourage amenities and parking for cars as well as trucks.
- Reported graffiti on the toilet block at Fishery Creek Boat Ramp that requires removal. (Cr Hordern also reported graffiti on the seats at the BBQ at this area adjacent to the river).

**10. Next Meeting**

The next meeting to be held at 4.00pm on Tuesday 9 November 2011.

**11. Meeting Close**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.40pm.

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BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL

"A" WARD COMMITTEE MEETING

13<sup>th</sup> September 2011

CHILD SAFETY - WEST BALLINA.

Council recently approved a child education facility in West Ballina . What provision has Council made for the safety of children and adults walking to this facility ?

In West Ballina there are few , if any , concrete footpaths , available for pedestrians , be they children , mums with pushers , aged people exercising , joggers , children going to catch school busses , children walking to the various parks . In this area , children play on the roads , make risky crossings on busy streets like Kalinga and Pacific Highway where there are no pedestrian crossings.

Council has now provided a Cycleway in Riverside Drive by providing , a large number of luminous white signs of a cycle painted on the existing roadway, complimented by large warning signs on the intersections , saying," Watch For cyclists".

There are many more venerable children , living in this area than cyclists , These children and adults , use the roadway , because in many places , the long wet grass and muddy footpaths , are covered with trees and shrubs , vehicles , and are dangerous and impassable.

One would think that Council is only concerned with the safety of Cyclists , having used resources to warn motorists to look out for cyclists. What about our kids , has their safety been forgotten ? Children have lived in this area for over fifty years. How about a few motorist signs like "Watch out for Children and pedestrians , there are no paved footpaths"

Has a risk management study been done by Council , to assess the safety of our children , in this areas of West Ballina , where there are no paved footpaths ? Is Council covered by it's insurer , if pedestrians are injured on the road , where footpaths are obstructed or impassable ?

Our kids are so precious , and our greatest asset , citizens , of Ballina's future , we must provide for children's safety at a time when they are most venerable .

Traffic in Ballina is ever increasing , and will do so well into the future , motorists are being put at risk , charged with avoiding pedestrian road users and cyclists.

Council's were once known for Rates , Roads and Rubbish. So lets use the rates , get rid of the rubbish , and provide road safety for our citizens who pay the rates , in the first instance.

Back to the original question " What is Council doing to protect pedestrian traffic in West Ballina " ?

George Young ,  
Committee Member.

13.9.2011

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**Re-instatement of the Crane Street - War Memorial Avenue -  
Stage 1  
Moon Street – Cherry Street**

A project plan has been developed to reinstate the war memorial street tree cross that was originally planted in Crane Street and Cherry Street as a memorial to the soldiers lost in the First World War. The project has been developed in conjunction with the Ballina RSL sub branch and Ballina Council.

Council has, over time, received numerous complaints regarding the existing Camphor Laurel trees as they are both in a significant state of decline and have been declared a noxious weed.

The project involves the removal of the existing Camphor trees and the construction of tree blisters into which new trees will be planted. The replanting will re-establish this important War Memorial to the First World War.

An example of the planting blister that will be constructed for the new trees is located in front of the Meals on Wheels facility in Crane Street.

The replacement trees that will be plant are *Waterhousea floribunda* 'Green Avenue' and information on these trees is available in the fact sheet attached to this letter.

The trees will be replanted in their current location or in close proximity depending on the location of existing driveways.

The works will involve the removal of existing trees, including stumps as well as construction of tree blisters and planting of new trees. This will involve some disruption to residents in regards to exit and entry of driveways and an increase in noise.

Commencement date for Stage 1 of the project will begin with tree removal works on Monday 15 August 2011.

The replacement trees are *Waterhousea Floribunda* 'Green Avenue'.

#### PLANT PROFILE

*Waterhousea floribunda* 'Green Avenue'

With graceful weeping foliage and non-invasive roots, *Waterhousea floribunda* is one of the top tree choices for softening hard urban landscapes. A select *Waterhousea* species featuring unusually broad leaves, symmetrical growth and an upright crown, GREEN AVENUE Pbr is an ideal avenue or stand-alone feature tree.

*Waterhousea floribunda* 'Green Avenue' is a fully green selection with bright green new growth maturing to very dark black/green. The tree is evergreen with low leaf drop. The improved form and very fast, upright growth have quickly made GREEN AVENUE a *Waterhousea* of choice for advanced tree growers and designers, with specification for prestigious projects including the new Brisbane International Airport development.

GREEN AVENUE grows to 12-15m+ high, this selection has been grown successfully in warmer temperate regions from Queensland to Melbourne.

(adapted from; <http://bangalownsw.blogspot.com/2011/04/new-waterhousea-floribunda-green-avenue.html>)



*Waterhousea Floribunda* 'Green Avenue'.



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**A BIT ABOUT MEMORIAL GROVE**

"According to Murray (in his book "Across Three Bridges", p.255), Mrs J Torrens (the then Mayor's wife) was the 'originator of the [tree planting] project'. The Mayor however played a role in getting the project underway by calling a public meeting, in February 1926, to plan the Memorial Grove. According to Cliff Murray the meeting '... had a poor attendance but, with £20 in hand, the committee decided to go ahead with the preparation of the ground for the trees and the erection of tree guards. The trees were planted in four sections in the pattern of a cross. Enough funds were raised by the committee to erect the guards and the Council dug the holes and provided soil to give the 68 trees a good start.'

The unveiling of memorials on Anzac Day was common practice in many communities for a number of years after the cessation of the two world wars. The planting of the Memorial Grove saw Ballina observe many aspects of Anzac Day ceremonies that were commonly observed elsewhere. Relatives of men who died participated in the ceremony, by planting trees. It was also common practice to observe the day with the playing of Reveille, The Northern Star reporting that with the last handful of earth placed in position around the trees as the last note rang out. The tree planting ceremony saw 'the citizens of Ballina' also dedicate a tree to the memory of the Unknown Soldier." (Extract from Ballina Shire Council's Heritage Study)

The tree species that was chosen is Cinnamomum camphor (camphor laurel), a native of China, Japan and Taiwan, which is now a Class 4 Noxious Weed within the Ballina locality. "The growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the local control authority and the plant may not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed" (www.dpi.nsw.gov.au).

**LOCATION OF MEMORIAL GROVE**



**PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

- Ensure that the design intent of the Memorial is retained for future generations to appreciate
- Remove a noxious weed from the CBD
- Improve the amenity of Crane and Cherry Streets
- Allow for future interpretative signage and memorials to be incorporated
- Maintain the "opposite" tree planting pattern where possible, but ensure trees avoid service lines and driveways

**MEMORIAL GROVE, BALLINA**

**Project Background and Objectives**  
CRANE AND CHERRY STREETS | BALLINA

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design team ink  
landscape architecture urban design



Aerial photography and cadastral overlay were provided by Ballina Shire Council.



MEMORIAL GROVE, BALLINA  
Existing Street Trees  
CRANE AND CHERRY STREETS | BALLINA

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design team ink  
 landscape architecture urban design



MEMORIAL GROVE, BALLINA  
 Tree Planting and Signage Plan  
 CRANE AND CHERRY STREETS | BALLINA

This is a conceptual plan only and is not to be used for construction purposes.

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MEMORIAL GROVE TREE SPECIES SUGGESTIONS/OPTIONS



Immature tree shown

**Waterhousea foribunda (Weeping Lilly Pilly)**

Approximate Height in Street Environment: 12-18m

Approximate Spread: 6-10m

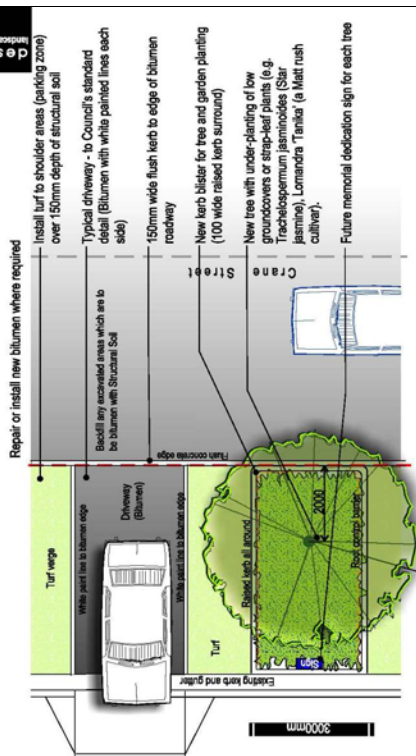
Distribution: Australia - East coast rainforests from northern Queensland to the central coast of New South Wales

Description: Waterhousea foribunda is a medium to large tree to 30 metres in height in its natural habitat, although it is usually much smaller in cultivation (up to about 6 metres). It has dark grey, flaky bark and lance-shaped to elliptical leaves which taper to a point. Leaves are about 5-15 cm long and up to 5 cm wide. The white flowers appear from late spring to mid summer and are followed by round fruits 15-20 mm in diameter and green in colour, maturing with a pink to red tinge.

Weeping lilly pilli is a hardy tree for temperate to tropical climates in reasonably well drained soils. Once established it will tolerate extended dry conditions but is at its best when assured water is available (<http://tagap.org.au/w-h-0.html>)

Species is evergreen and has a rounded habit.

TYPICAL TREE PLANTING AND BLISTER DETAIL



Design team link  
 landscape architects & urban design

Repair or install new blumen where required

Install turf to shoulder areas (parking zone) over 150mm depth of structural soil

Typical driveway - to Council's standard detail (Blumen with white painted lines each side)

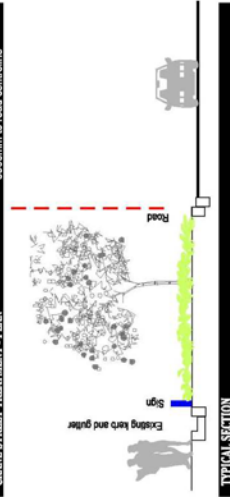
150mm wide flush kerb to edge of blumen roadway

New kerb blaster for tree and garden planting (100 wide raised kerb surround)

New tree with under-planting of low groundcovers or strap-leaf plants (e.g. Trachelospermum jasminoides (Star Jasmine), Lomandra 'Tanjak' (a Malt rush cultivar),

Future memorial dedication sign for each tree

CRANE STREET TREATMENT - PLAN

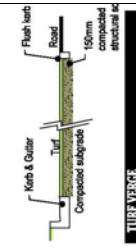


TYPICAL SECTION

General Installation Process

- Cut down canopy of tree and chip (retain core trunk)
- Cut roots by trenching around the root zone
- Excavate to remove tree stump, roots and all soil and extraneous matter from the trench zone
- Install structural soils
- Install kerbing and make good any blumen areas
- Install root barriers
- Install imported premium garden soils to the garden area, install plants and backfill
- Install guys to each tree if necessary to hold firm
- Install 75-100mm depth of course 'forest blend' mulch and fertilise
- Undertake regular watering and maintenance to ensure vigorous healthy plant growth

TURF VERGE



MEMORIAL GROVE, BALLINA  
 Tree Planting Details  
 CRANE AND CHERRY STREETS | BALLINA

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Date: 27.08.10

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A Ward Meeting Attendance Sheet		
Name	Business	Signature
Cr Sue Meehan		✓
Cr Robyn Hordern		<i>R. Hordern</i>
Cr Alan Brown		<i>A. Brown</i>
Cr Phillip Silver		<i>P. Silver</i>
Ms Betty Barwick	Ballina CWA	<i>B. Barwick</i>
Mr George Young	Ballina Lions Club	<i>G. Young</i>
Mr Glenn Costello	Ballina Chamber of Commerce	<i>G. Costello</i>
Dr Lee Andresen	Ballina Environment Society <i>NEIL ANDRESEN</i>	Apology <i>L. Andresen</i>
Ms Margaret Hains	Ballina Day View Club	<i>M. Hains</i>
Mr Alex Smith	Ballina Retail Action Group	
Mr Allan Hart	Paradise FM	<i>A. Hart</i>
Mr Andrew Playford	Ballina High School & East Ballina Lions Club	<i>Andrew Playford</i>
Mr Paul Kennedy	Ballina Probus Club	
Ms Hazel Elliott	Ballina Evening View	
Ms Mary O'Brien	Lighthouse Day Club	<i>M. O'Brien</i>
Mr Pip Carter	St Andrews Ballina	Apology
Mr John Truman	Group Manager Civil Services	<i>J. Truman</i>
<i>Mrs Corrine Wick</i>	<i>SA BALLINA BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION</i>	<i>C. Wick</i>