

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
40 CHERRY STREET, BALLINA,
ON 4/03/14 AT 4.00 PM**

Attendance

Cr David Wright (Mayor - in the chair), Jeff Johnson, Keith Williams, Keith Johnson, Susan Meehan (arrived at 4.01 pm), Ken Johnston, Paul Worth, Ben Smith and Robyn Hordern.

Paul Hickey (General Manager), John Truman (Civil Services Group Manager), Rod Willis (Development and Environmental Health Group Manager), Steve Barnier (Strategic and Community Facilities Group Manager), Peter Morgan (Manager Finance and Governance) and Sandra Bailey (Secretary) were in attendance.

There were five people in the gallery at this time.

1. Apologies

An apology was received from Cr Sharon Cadwallader.

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Keith Johnson)

That such apology be accepted.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader and Cr Susan Meehan

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

3. Deputations

- **Malcolm Milner** – spoke in opposition to Item 4.3 – Community Infrastructure – Non-recurrent Capital Projects and in particular to the item on the coastal shared/path/walk.

Cr Susan Meehan arrived at the meeting at 04:01 pm.

- **Shaun Eastment, Vice President, Lennox Head Residents Association** – spoke in relation to Item 4.3 – Community Infrastructure – Non-recurrent Capital Projects and in particular to the item on the coastal shared/path/walk.

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4. Committee Reports

4.1 Financial Performance Indicators and Benchmarks

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Susan Meehan)

That Council notes the contents of this report in respect to the Financial Performance Indicators and Benchmarks.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader

4.3 Community Infrastructure - Non-recurrent Capital Projects

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Jeff Johnson and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

That the priority for Council funding is the commuter cycleway on the western side of the Coast Road as per Section A1 to A5, as identified in the report.

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

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

Adjournment

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 5.13 pm

The meeting resumed at 5.26 pm

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Ben Smith/Cr Paul Worth)

That Council confirms its No. 1 priority for the funding proposal outlined in this report is for the Coastal Shared Path segments from Angels Beach to Sharpes Beach (referred to as Section B), with this information to be included in the drafting of Council's long term financial plan for 2014/15 onwards.

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

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RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Keith Johnson/Cr Ben Smith)

That Council's remaining priority order, in respect to the long term financial plan, for the Coastal Shared Path / Walk and cycleway projects is Sections D, A and C, as referenced within this report.

FOR VOTE - Cr Keith Johnson, Cr Susan Meehan, Cr Ken Johnston, Cr Robyn Hordern and Cr Ben Smith

AGAINST VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Jeff Johnson, Cr Keith Williams and Cr Paul Worth

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader

4.2 Rating Structure - Ordinary Land Rates

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Keith Johnson and seconded by Cr Keith Williams

1. That Council, for the purposes of the 2014/15 Draft Operational Plan, endorses a base rating structure modelled on 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) The mining category rate in the dollar to be set as the same rate as the business category (currently no mining category properties exist within the shire).
2. Preliminary figures for this rating structure for 2014/15, as per tables two and three within this report, are outlined below:

Table Two: Proposed 2013/14 Rating Structure

Rating Category	2.3% Increase	
	Base Amount	Rate in Dollar
Residential	429	0.165769
Business	429	0.589130
Farmland	429	0.133990
Mining	429	0.589130

Table Three: Proposed 2014/15 Income per Category 2.3%

Rate Category	2013/14			2014/15		
	5.9% increase	Cat %	Ave Rate	2.3% increase	Cat %	Cat % of

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		from base amt	of total yield			from base amt	total yield	
Residential	12,722,924	49.84	72.19	841	13,124,373	49.83	72.34	861
Business	3,525,028	14.76	20.00	2,793	3,628,551	14.67	20.00	2,815
Farmland	1,377,220	32.63	7.81	1,287	1,389,886	32.53	7.66	1,320
Mining	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	17,625,172	N/A	100.0	1,010	18,142,810	N/A	100.00	1,031

3. That Council receive a report on how the business rate has changed over time since the introduction of the 20% cap.
4. That Council receive a report on options in respect to farmland rating.

An **Amendment** was moved by Cr Jeff Johnson and seconded by Cr Susan Meehan

1. That Council receive a report on how the business rate has changed over time since the introduction of the 20% cap.
2. That Council receive a report on options in respect to farmland rating.

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

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Keith Johnson/Cr Keith Williams)

1. That Council, for the purposes of the 2014/15 Draft Operational Plan, endorses a base rating structure modelled on the following principles:
 - a) Marginally less than 50% of the rate income for the residential category of properties being generated from the base amount
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 - c) A total of 20% income from the rate yield to be sourced from the

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business category properties

- d) The mining category rate in the dollar to be set as the same rate as the business category (currently no mining category properties exist within the shire).
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Table Three: Proposed 2014/15 Income per Category 2.3%

Rate Category	2013/14				2014/15		
	5.9% increase	Cat % from base amt	Cat % of total yield	Ave Rate	2.3% increase	Cat % from base amt	Cat % of total yield
Residential	12,722,924	49.84	72.19	841	13,124,373	49.83	72.34
Business	3,525,028	14.76	20.00	2,793	3,628,551	14.67	20.00
Farmland	1,377,220	32.63	7.81	1,287	1,389,886	32.53	7.66
Mining	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	17,625,172	N/A	100.0	1,010	18,142,810	N/A	100.00

3. That Council receive a report on how the business rate has changed over time since the introduction of the 20% cap.
4. That Council receive a report on options in respect to farmland rating.

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

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader

MEETING CLOSURE

6.33 pm