

1. Attendance and Apologies

Members

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

Alan Veacock, Ballina Heights Residences Action Group
Lyn Walker, Ballina Environment Society
Debbie Smith, Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce
Lou Wilson, Lennox Surf Life Saving Club
Fran Byrne, Coastcare
Lorraine Leuckel, Marine Rescue Ballina
Shaun Eastment, Lennox Head Landcare
Monica Wilcox, Lennox Head Residents Association

Observers

Jim Gilchrist, visitor

Council Staff

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

Apologies

Darel Vidler, Lennox Head Combined Sports Association

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

A copy of the Minutes of the "B" Ward Committee held 21 November 2016 were distributed.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the "B" Ward Committee held 21 November 2016 be taken as read and confirmed. (Ms Leuckel/Ms Smith)

4. Deputations

Nil.

5. Outstanding Business

(a) Centre Line Marking – Deadmans Creek Road and The Ridgeway roundabout

The Committee noted the response provided by Council staff.

(b) Landscaping around new Marine Rescue Facility

The Committee noted the response provided by Council staff.

(c) Options for improved maintenance and management of the western bushland area within Williams Reserve

The Committee noted the response provided by Council staff.

(d) Maintenance of Megan Crescent Reserve

The Committee noted the response provided by Council staff.

6. Business with Notice from Members

Ballina Heights Residences Action Group (BHRAG)

The Committee noted the matters that had been raised with notice by the Group, as well as the written response which had been provided by Council. Mr Veacock expressed his appreciation for the information which had been furnished.

7. Council Documents on Exhibition

The list of Council documents which have recently been exhibited for community feedback was noted.

8. Business Without Notice

(a) Lyn Walker – Stormwater and drainage matters

Dr Walker presented some images showing ponded water along a couple of sections of the coastal recreational pathway associated with the current intense weather event.

Mr Truman indicated he would ask staff to inspect the identified locations to assess the need for remedial works.

(b) Lyn Walker – Coastal Recreational Pathway across Skennars Head

Dr Walker acknowledged the need for careful design of this section of the proposed pathway which is to traverse Skennars Headland. The need arises due to suspected poor geological conditions in this location, as well as the pathway's proximity to cliff faces.

(c) Lorraine Leuckel – Signage adjacent to the new Ballina Marine Rescue Facility

Ms Leuckel asked that signage be arranged by Council to alert the community that a defibrillator, retained by Marine Rescue, is available within the facility, in case of an emergency.

Mr Truman indicated that he will look into the matter.

(d) Lou Wilson – Lennox Head Surf Club

Mr Wilson outlined for the Committee steps which are currently being undertaken to resume the operation of the refreshment facility which has operated within the Club building. Club representatives and a potential operator for the facility are in discussions with Council in relation to regulatory matters.

(e) Alan Veacock – Ballina Heights Estate

Mr Veacock raised general concerns about the rapid development occurring, or planned to occur, within Ballina Heights Estate and elsewhere along the Cumbalum ridge. Residents are concerned that housing development is occurring without the provision of supporting infrastructure, including the planned shopping centre. The desire for a south-facing ramp to access the adjacent motorway was also reinforced.

The Committee was advised that, apart from its regulatory responsibilities, Council is unable to influence the timing of the provision of private retailing support services within this estate.

In relation to the motorway access, Mr Truman advised the Committee that Council's support for this infrastructure has been communicated to NSW Roads and Maritime and political support has also been sought.

(f) Monica Wilcox – Stormwater and drainage matters

Ms Wilcox raised concerns regarding safety, access and property damage in the vicinity of Gibbon Street, Megan Crescent and Dodge Lane in Lennox Head arising from the recent intense rain event.

Mr Truman advised that staff is aware of the conditions and deploy responses as considered appropriate. Remedial options are limited, given the location is relatively flat and low-lying.

It was suggested that primary outlets which drain this area of Lennox Head to Seven Mile Beach require improved maintenance to remove obstructions caused by beach sand. Mr Truman indicated that the current drainage maintenance program is considered adequate in this location, however staff are investigating the rainfall data for this event, including the duration of the flooding and this will be assessed against the expected capacity of the existing infrastructure to determine if upgrade works should be considered.

(g) Monica Wilcox – Playground equipment, Megan Crescent Reserve.

Ms Wilcox invited Council's consideration of improvements to promote the use of the playground equipment. Suggestions include shading (either by the placement of shade structures or tree planting), general landscaping and provision of seating.

Mr Truman outlined the Council's policy regarding parkland improvements and infrastructure, based on a hierarchical approach.

(h) Debbie Smith – Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce activities

Ms Smith expressed the Chamber's appreciation for Council's recent engagement in relation to the preparation of the Shire's draft Economic Development Strategy. More generally, Ms Smith indicated that Council's commitment to the NSW Government's Small Business Friendly Councils program is appreciated by her organisation's members.

Forthcoming community events which are being coordinated or supported by the Chamber include the Love Lennox Festival (3 June), Lennox Head Business Awards (mid/late July) and the 'Burnt Toast' fundraising and recruitment promotion day for Lennox Head Rural Fire Service (26 March).

(i) Debbie Smith – Ballina State Emergency Service Headquarters

Ms Smith enquired about the status of the Ballina SES building.

Mr Truman provided the Committee with a brief overview of the relationship between the Service and Council and the associated legislative framework.

Council and the Service are continuing with discussions regarding provision of a new headquarters building to meet the Service's contemporary needs.

(j) Fran Byrne – Vegetation management, Coastal Recreational Pathway

Ms Byrne noted that a Pandanus tree, located adjacent to the pathway near the Flat Rock carpark has had branches removed.

Mr Truman advised he would make enquiries about the matter.

Ms Byrne also indicated she is aware of very positive community sentiment regarding the recently constructed coastal recreational pathway and associated Aboriginal Cultural Ways interpretive signage project.

(k) Shaun Eastment – Rehabilitation Works

Ms Eastment commended the work being coordinated by Council and James Brideson in particular, involving rehabilitation and planting within the reserve adjacent to the shared pathway along Lennox Headland.

(l) Jim Gilchrist – State Government Shark Strategy

Mr Gilchrist enquired about whether Council would support the provision of additional shark netting on Seven Mile Beach, in the vicinity of the Lennox Point Hotel.

Mr Truman advised the Council had resolved its support for an additional net to be deployed at this location and this position had been conveyed to the Minister and senior Department of Primary Industries representatives. DPI have advised in response it is their recommendation not to support the additional net at this point in time as it would result, from a scientific perspective, in an incomplete data set which is due to be analysed at the completion of the current trial.

Additional Matters

- (i) Prior to the closure of the meeting, John Truman provided the Committee with a brief update concerning the Lennox Head business area upgrade project.

Stakeholder engagement has occurred to assist in identifying options for improvement, particularly in relation to traffic management.

Council's current position is that further investment and community consultation relating to the project should be deferred until it has been endorsed for inclusion in a future Operational Plan and Delivery Program.

A recent request will however be investigated to assess the feasibility of funding the upgrading project through loan borrowings. Additionally, staff will consider the possibility of relocating the children's playground from Ross Park to the foreshore reserve in the vicinity of the bus bay and picnic shelter in advance of further consideration of the broader upgrading project.

- (ii) For the benefit of members, Councillor Cadwallader provided a brief overview of the proposed Ballina Marina Masterplan project. The potential economic and social benefits associated with the future

redevelopment of the existing Ballina Trawler Harbour and nearby land were identified.

The draft Masterplan has been endorsed by the Council for public exhibition, and the matter will be further considered with the benefit of community feedback.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Monday 15 May 2017 at 4.30 pm.

10. Meeting closure

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.05 pm.