

**MINUTES OF THE BALLINA OCEAN POOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OF BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COMMITTEE ROOM
40 CHERRY STREET BALLINA,
ON 8/11/17 AT 5.35 PM**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Members: John Wise, Cr Jeff Johnson, Michelle Bourke, Peter Lucena (members of the Ballina Ocean Pool Committee Inc)

Observer: Cr David Wright (Mayor).

Apologies were received from Bill McInerney and Craig Nowlan. Such apologies were accepted by the Committee.

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

3. Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: (Michelle Bourke/John Wise)

That the Committee confirms the Minutes of the Ocean Pool Committee held on 26 September 2016.

Supported Unanimously

4. General Business

1. Review engineering quotations for pool design and determine successful firm, along with preferred method of procurement.

Six consultancy firms were sent the tender documents and we received five conforming responses. The standout proposal was from the Water Research Laboratory.

The key points being:

- Most experienced with ocean pool engineering
- They are affiliated with UNSW
- Being linked to a University they would be in a strong position to be looked on favourably by the NSW and Federal Governments for a future grant application for the construction costs associated with the pool
- Have data dating back to 1960 related to ocean pools
- The principles are keen ocean pool swimmers
- Have access to government and university data
- They have knowledge of the coastal processes in our area
- Rob Brander, our geomorphologist has worked with them previously
- On a cost comparison with the tenders they came out favourably

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RECOMMENDATION: (Peter Lucena/John Wise)

The Water Research Laboratory was the Committee's preferred consultant for the engineering design and coastal processes reports. That the complying tenders be forwarded to John Truman in order of preference for confirmation of the preferred tender/consultant.

Supported Unanimously.

In consultation with Council management, two options were provided for the facilitation of payments to consultants and for the management of the process. The preferred approach of Council staff, as stated in the agenda was for Option B.

RECOMMENDATION: (Michelle Bourke/John Wise)

That the Committee's preferred option for the payment and management of the contractors is Option B as outlined in the agenda, being

The Council Ocean Pool Committee confirms a preferred supplier and makes a recommendation to the Ocean Pool Committee Inc (the community ocean pool committee) on the preferred supplier. The members of the Ocean Pool Committee Inc then directly engage the supplier.

The Ocean Pool Committee Inc would then need to pay the supplier and submit a claim for reimbursement from Council.

Supported Unanimously.

2. Update on environmental investigations being carried out by Southern Cross University from John Wise in readiness for planning application to Council

The draft Environmental Report completed by Southern Cross University has concluded that there is minimal loss of habitat on the rock shelf and that there is very little permanent marine fauna in the location due the fluctuation of sand and rock exposure.

The key findings of the draft report were

1. That the ocean pool will enhance the habitat of the rock shelf which will provide an overall positive benefit.
2. It will promote richness and diversity of both flora and fauna.

The School of Marine Science at Southern Cross University is keen to work with the Engineers with the pool design to maximise the positive impact and interaction. The costs associated with the report is in the order of \$5,000. If this report was completed by a private consultancy firm the figure would be significantly higher.

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The draft report has been sent to Andrew Smith from Council's Development and Environmental Health Group and the General Manager, Paul Hickey to pass onto the relevant Council staff for comment and to determine whether any further investigations or reports are required for this part of the DA process.

RECOMMENDATION: (John Wise/Cr Jeff Johnson)

That a letter of thanks be sent to Professor Harrison and his team for all the support they have provided to our Committee.

Supported Unanimously.

3. Update on meetings with Council officers from Cr Jeff Johnson

Jeff met with Andrew Smith and David Kelly and has had numerous discussions with John Truman and Paul Hickey

(a) Traffic and Parking reports

There have recently been traffic and specifically parking studies in relation to the Ballina Surf Club, the Belle General Café and the Shelly Beach Café which Ballina Council officers have assessed. David Kelly suggested that it would not be an onerous report given the data is already available. Also, if the Ballina Ocean Pool Committee engaged an external consultant the Council officers would still have to go through the existing reports in order to make an informed assessment.

RECOMMENDATION: (Michelle Bourke/John Wise)

That Council staff be requested to assess the existing traffic and parking studies relevant to the Ballina Ocean Pool and provide the Ocean Pool Committee with an assessment for inclusion in the Ocean Pool DA.

Supported Unanimously.

(b) Access to the Pool

The Ocean Pool will have an access ramp and rail but it's the getting over the sand to the pool from the Shelly Beach Surf Club which would make it hard to access for those in a wheelchair or are quite frail (mobility issues). What would be recommended to provide the most opportunities to the most people?

RECOMMENDATION: (Cr Jeff Johnson/Michelle Bourke)

That the Ballina Ocean ask for the opportunity to give a short presentation to the Ballina Shire Access Committee in order to get feedback on options/initiatives to increase the accessibility of the Ballina Ocean Pool for those in our community who are less mobile and have difficulty crossing the sand or rocks.

Supported Unanimously.

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(c) Native Title and Aboriginal Consultation

The issue of Native Title was discussed and it was suggested that the Ballina Ocean Pool should look at Ian Fox's report that was completed as part of the approval process for the Ballina Coastal Path. This report is publically available on Council's website. This report identifies what consultation process was undertaken for the Shared Coastal Pathway.

RECOMMENDATION: (Michelle Bourke/Peter Lucena)

1. That representatives from the Ballina Ocean Pool Committee seek an invitation to attend and give a brief presentation to a JALI Land Council Board meeting and ask for formal support.
2. That the Ballina Ocean Pool organise a meeting with Steve Barnier and Matt Wood to discuss community consultation and processes.

Supported Unanimously.

5. Next Meeting of the Council Ballina Ocean Pool Committee

To be confirmed.

6. Meeting Closure

7.13 pm