

**1. Attendance and Apologies**

Councillor Ben Smith (Chair)  
Cr Eoin Johnston  
Cr David Wright (Mayor)

Lois Wright - Plateau Seniors  
Mary Birch – Wollongbar Progress Association  
Jane Gardiner – Alstonville Plateau Historical Society  
Jim Hahn – Probus Club of Alstonville  
Marilyn Nobbs-Hahn – Probus Club of Alstonville  
Russell Priddle – Alstonville Football Club  
Ron Birch – Wollongbar Progress Association (part time)  
Wayne Garrard – Alstonville Cricket Club  
Pat Carney - Wardell Progress Association  
Les Wiles – Alstonville Lions Club  
Marilyn Perkins – Wollongbar Progress Association  
Barry Jeffress – Tuckombil Landcare

**Others in Attendance**

Douglas Murdoch (Observer)  
Paul Worth (Observer)

**Staff in Attendance**

Matthew Wood, Group Manager, Development and Environmental Health Group

**Apologies**

Malcolm Johnson - Ballina Environment Society  
Steve Miller – Rous Mill Ratepayers  
Richard Lutze – Alstonville/Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce  
Elva Fitzell – Rotary e-Club of NextGen  
Councillor Sharon Parry

The apologies were accepted.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Nil

**3. Deputations**

Nil

**4. Confirmation of Minutes 8 March 2018**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 March 2018 were confirmed as a true and correct record (Mary Birch/Jane Gardiner).

**5. Business Arising from Minutes –8 March 2018**

**(a) Use of Steam as a Weed Control System**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**(b) Disaster Relief Funding – “Devil’s Elbow”**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**(c) Bulwinkle Park**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**(d) Angels Beach**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**(e) Entry Signs – Alstonville**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**(f) Fundraising Activities – Woolworths Ballina**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**(g) Chair of C Ward Committee**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

Councillor Smith indicated that the Councillors are comfortable with the status quo. The meeting confirmed that the existing arrangement is acceptable at present.

Councillor Smith indicated that Council will further consider policy in relation the Ward Committees in a Councillor briefing to be held mid May 2018.

There was some interest amongst the Committee in rotation of Councillors through the chair role. This can be considered by Council in the briefing regarding engagement policy.

**(h) Update on Swimming Pool Redevelopments**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

Mayor Wright indicated that Council is examining provision of additional shade. Storage has also been addressed in the rebuild.

Councillor Smith indicated the pools are due to be opened for an extended season in late July or early August 2018.

**(i) Wollongbar Sports Fields – Entry Road**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

Paul Worth asked who opens and closes the gates. Matthew Wood advised that gate management is carried out by Council's security contractor.

Mary Birch asked about the status of road repairs. The Mayor and Councillor Smith indicated further works are being considered for implementation. It was confirmed that the road is open for public use.

Paul Worth asked who designed the original road in the context of concern about ratepayers meeting rehabilitation costs. Mayor Wright and Councillor Smith indicated Cardno designed the road and that Council will consider recovery of costs from the original designer. The matter to be referred to the Engineering Works section for review.

Related to the matter of professional design advice provided to Council, Councillor Johnston raised concerns about pool upgrade costs and delays in relation to power augmentation.

**(j) Toilets at Geoff Watt Oval**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

Councillor Johnston raised concerns about the availability of Police at Alstonville as it appears that Alstonville's officer is often seconded to work in other places.

**(k) Footpath near Alstonville Telephone Exchange**

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**6. Council Documents on Exhibition**

The list of Council documents which have recently been exhibited for public comment was noted.

Lois Wright queried whether the waste fees for not for profit groups policy has changed. Matthew Wood advised no significant changes are proposed in the document that is on exhibition.

Marilyn Nobbs-Hahn queried the rules for garage sale signage. Matthew Wood indicated that such signage is not permitted to be erected on public land, power poles etc.

Councillor Smith gauged the level of interest in holding a Delivery Program public meeting in Alstonville. No strong preference was expressed by the Committee.

**7. Items raised by members of the Committee**

**(a) Weeds along the Bruxner Highway**

Mary Birch raised concern about the weed, morning glory growing along the Bruxner Highway. Mary indicated that amenity is significantly impacted especially near the BP and Kays Lane. It was also noted that directional signage is becoming covered.

Mayor Wright advised Council staff have raised this issue with the RMS. Matter to be further considered by staff (post meeting note: photographs provided by Marilyn Perkins).

**(b) Maintenance of Public Spaces around Wollongbar/Waste Forum**

Mary Birch provided positive feedback about the maintenance of public spaces around Wollongbar and advised a waste education talk would be held at Wollongbar Hall at 6pm Wednesday 16 May 2018.

**(c) Bulwinkle Park**

Les Wiles raised Bulwinkle Park works, including removal of 9 camphor laurel trees. More trees are yet to be removed with this work likely to take until July 2018. Expected cost is in the order of \$10,000 for chipping (removal is being undertaken at no cost). Councillor Smith suggested the group make a donation request for works at Bulwinkle Park.

Les also raised the matter of the power line running through the park where tree limbs are overhanging the lines. Councillor Smith indicated Council can raise this matter with Essential Energy. The matter to be referred to Council's Open Space and Reserves section for review.

**(d) Freeborn Park**

Les Wiles indicated that in Freeborn Park one of the trees is causing pavers to be raised. Concern raised that this may be a trip hazard. Matter to be referred to Council's Open Space and Reserves section for review.

**(e) Teven Park**

Barry Jeffress indicated that Teven Park is a work in progress involving removal of approximately 40 camphor laurel trees. The group is planning to plant around 3,000 rainforest trees on the site in about June 2018.

**(f) Engine Immobiliser Damage**

Barry Jeffress raised an issue relating to engine immobiliser damage resulting from power surges in the power boxes/transformers. Barry was encouraged to contact Essential Energy direct.

**(g) Blocked Stormwater Inlets**

Wayne Garrard raised concern that stormwater inlets around Alstonville are blocked by debris after heavy rain (particularly in the Geoff Watt Oval area and around Panorama Estate). The matter to be referred to Council's Engineering Works section for review.

**(h) Alstonville Pool Works – Pipe**

The matter of a pipe remaining from the Alstonville pool works near trees on Crawford Park was also raised (pipe is partly buried but the end is exposed). There is concern the pipe may contain asbestos material. The matter to be referred to Council's Community Facilities and Open Space and Reserves sections for review.

**(i) Rous Hall**

Councillor Johnston advised that a recent meet and greet at Rous Hall was successful.

**(j) Dalwood Road – Linemarking**

Councillor Johnston indicated that Dalwood Road does not have white line marking and this is of concern particularly due to the nature of the sweeping bends. The matter to be referred to Council's Engineering Works section for review.

**(k) Grass Cutting on Rural Roads**

Grass cutting along roadways being missed in key areas was also raised (for example, where Rous Road joins Dalwood Road). Concern about potential for visibility problems. The matter to be referred to Engineering Works and Open Space and Reserves sections for review.

**(l) Slip Lane Roadworks – Bruxner Highway**

Les Wiles asked when slip lane road works will commence on the Bruxner Highway at Alstonville. Mayor Wright indicated the works are expected to begin in mid May 2018.

**(m) Mowing – Sneaths Lane**

Mary Birch enquired about mowing around Sneaths Lane near the TAFE and footpath. The matter to be referred to Council's Open Space and Reserves section for review.

**(n) Croquet Facilities – Alstonville/Wollongbar**

Jane Gardiner raised the issue of croquet fields at Alstonville and the level of services available. Mayor Wright indicated that the Wollongbar Sports Fields project included engagement with sporting groups but croquet did not identify particular needs at the time. Council has not received a definitive proposal for the Alstonville club (post meeting note: further information has been provided to Council by the Alstonville croquet club for consideration).

**(o) Wollongbar Skate Park**

The Wollongbar skate park was discussed in relation to enquiries received by the Mayor. By way of a status update, the development application for the facility is under assessment including consideration of noise issues and NSW Police feedback.

**(p) Vandalism Repair Costs – Crawford House**

Jane Gardiner advised that vandalism repair costs in the order of \$800 relating to windows at Crawford House will be reimbursed to the Historical Society by Council.

**(q) Chamber of Commerce Awards Night**

Councillor Smith advised of the upcoming Chamber of Commerce Awards night.

**9. General Business**

Nil.

**10. Next Meeting**

Thursday 12 July 2018 at 5.00 pm

**Meeting Closure**

5.55 pm