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**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM, LIBRARY COURT, HOLBROOK
ON WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009**

GOVERNANCE

1. **WOOMARGAMA BYPASS – PRESENTATION BY NSW ROADS AND TRAFFIC AUTHORITY**

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council that Ray Tester, Project Development Manager, Hume Highway Office of the Roads and Traffic Authority, has offered to make a presentation to Council on the proposed route for the Woomargama Bypass.

DISCUSSION

On Thursday 11 June 2009 the RTA conducted a Community Information Session to present a preliminary concept design for the proposed Woomargama Bypass Route.

Mr Tester has offered to make a short presentation to Council, including a simulated drive through of the proposed route.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That standing orders be suspended to allow a presentation from Ray Tester, Project Development Manager, Hume Highway Office of the Roads and Traffic Authority.

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ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. **MODIFICATION OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT NO. 17-08/09 (VIA DA 19-08/09): CONSTRUCTION OF SWIMMING POOL, SHED, AND VERANDAH – LOT 16 DP 1027816, 126 DIGHT STREET, JINDERA [P282.6417]**

Report prepared by Town Planning Consultant – James Laycock

REASON FOR THE REPORT

This application has been reported to Council because an objection has been received. The applicant and owner is Joy Peach.

DISCUSSION

Introduction

The application is to modify existing Development Consent No. 17-08/09, which was approved on 28 August 2008 and further modified on 8 January 2009 (Modified DA).

The land is located at 126 Dight Street, Jindera, and is otherwise known as Lot 16 DP 1027816 (the Site).

The Site is zoned "Township Zone" under the *Hume Local Environmental Plan 2001* (LEP), and the Modified DA is permissible subject to Council approval.

Approval of the Modified DA is recommended subject to standard conditions.

Background

- Development Consent No. 17-08/09 approved: 28 August 2008
- 1st modification of Development Consent No. 17-08/09 approved: 8 January 2009
- Modified DA received (2nd modification): 25 May 2009
- Modified DA notified to adjoining landowners: 28 May 2009 to 11 June 2009
- Submission received objecting to the Modified DA: 12 June 2009 **(ENCLOSED SEPARATELY)**

Site description

The site is located in an established residential area in Jindera with the proposed development situated to the rear (north) of the Site as graphically shown in the Site Plan, attached as **ANNEXURE 1**.

The site contains a single-storey detached residential dwelling and a partially constructed shed being the subject of this report.

Photographs of the site and the partially constructed shed are available for inspection in Council's file which will be available at the meeting.

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CONSTRUCTION OF SWIMMING POOL, SHED, AND VERANDAH – LOT 16 DP 1027816, 126
DIGHT STREET, JINDERA [P282.6417] [CONT'D]

Description of proposal

The proposal is to increase the height of the approved shed by 120 mm to an overall height of 3,650 mm. A garden shed is also sought to be approved but this is not the subject of the objection received.

Consultation & referral process

The application was notified to adjoining landowners from 28 May 2009 to 11 June 2009 and one (1) submission was received objecting to the Modified DA in terms of the proposed 120 mm increase in shed height.

Assessment

In assessing the merits of the Modified DA, it is considered that the 'context and setting' and 'site and internal design' assessment provisions of the *Consideration of Applications Development Control Plan* should be considered, as well as the requirements of sections 79C and 96 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act).

These matters have been considered in the context of the existing approved development and the submission received as follows.

It is noted that the *Building Setbacks Development Control Plan* and Council's *Policy No. 70: Guidelines for Erection of Sheds* are not relevant given the existing approved development and the nature of the Modified DA.

Submission

The following town planning assessment issues have been identified from the submission and are considered relevant to section 79C(1) and 96 of the Act (listed in no particular order of considered importance):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ the shed will intrude upon the rear private open space of the dwelling to the west of the Site i.e. the shed will be the main focal point of views from the backyard and will adversely affect aesthetics and enjoyment of the backyard; | <u>Comment:</u> The existing approved shed has a height of 3,530 mm and the proposed increase in height is 120 mm to be a total of 3,650 mm. This change is considered to be a minor and it is not reasonably considered that there would be any detrimental impacts to any adjoining property as a result. |
|--|---|

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MODIFICATION OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT NO. 17-08/09 (VIA DA 19-08/09):
CONSTRUCTION OF SWIMMING POOL, SHED, AND VERANDAH – LOT 16 DP 1027816, 126
DIGHT STREET, JINDERA [P282.6417] [CONT'D]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Devaluation of property; 	<p><u>Comment:</u> The devaluation of property is not a relevant matter for consideration under section 79C of the Act, however related matters are, such as the consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council's land use and development planning policies; ▪ likely impacts including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality; ▪ the suitability of the site for the development; ▪ submissions; and ▪ the public interest. <p>In the above regard it is it is not reasonably considered that the proposed 120 mm increase in shed height would cause any detrimental impacts to any adjoining property.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the shed's height should be reduced by 820 mm 	<p>For the above reasons it is not considered that such a measure is warranted.</p>

Council Note: The objector was previously notified of the proposed shed at a height of 3,530 mm and did not object at that time.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The proposal Modified DA has been assessed against the LEP, specifically clauses 11 and 20, and also assessed against sections 79C(1) and 96 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

It is considered that the proposal warrants approval, subject to standard conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

That the modification of Development Consent No. 17-08/09 (via DA 19-08/09) be approved subject to the following change to Condition 1.

1. The development is to be carried out generally in accordance with the approved plans endorsed DA 17-08/09 , except where amended by the plans received 24 December 2008 and 25 May 2009, and the following conditions.

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2. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 140-08/09 – SHED – LOT 81 DP 753727 – RIVERINA HIGHWAY, BUNGOWANNAH [P236]

Report prepared by Building Surveyor - Wayne Allen

REASON FOR REPORT

Council is currently in receipt of Development Application 140-08/09 for a shed at Lot 81 DP753727 Riverina Highway Bungowannah. The applicant is Garage World and the owner is Mr Ross Martin.

This application has been referred to Council Ordinary Meeting for the reason the owner wishes Council to consider departure from the Hume Shire Council Guidelines for Living in Rural Area, Development Control Plan. Part 3 Development Principles:

- 3.6 Building Materials. Colourbond, zincalume and tiles are all suitable roofing materials in rural areas if matched with the appropriate building style, setting and materials. Other roof materials such as unpainted galvanized iron are acceptable if being used in an addition to match existing materials; and
- 3.7 Ancillary Structures. Ancillary structures such as water tanks, garages and farm sheds should form part of the overall site planning to ensure an attractive and functional grouping of buildings. Colours, style and general proportions of farm storage sheds, as well as garages, should be considered in relation to the design of the main dwelling. Sometimes existing outbuildings and their relationship to a new dwelling can be improved by tree planting or painting.

The completed structure is of plain galvanised finish.

Site Description

The site is described as Lot 81 DP 753727 Riverina Highway Bungowannah. The site has an area of approximately twenty five hectares (24.69 ha) and is located on the northern side of Riverina Highway Bungowannah.

The property is zoned Rural Agriculture Inner in accordance with the Hume Shire Council Local Environmental Plan 2001.

Description of the Proposal

The proposal involves a shed with a galvanised finish.

A copy of the site plan and elevations has been included at **ANNEXURE2** to this report.

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DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 140-08/09 – SHED – LOT 81 DP 753727 – RIVERINA
HIGHWAY BUNGOWANNAH [CONT'D]

Assessment

The following is an evaluation of the application in accordance with section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

1. Matters for consideration – general

a) The provision of

(i) any environmental planning instruments

There are no State Environmental Planning Policies. Murray Regional Environmental Plan No 2 – Riverine Land is applicable to the application. The relevant local planning instrument is the Hume Shire Council Local Environmental Plan 2001. The subject site is zoned Rural Agriculture (Inner) in accordance with the Hume Shire Council Local Environmental Plan 2001. The proposed development is permissible in the zone with the consent of Council.

(ii) any draft environmental planning instrument that is or has been placed on public exhibition

Nil.

(iii) any development control plan

The Development Control Plans applicable to the subject development application is the *Strategic Direction Development Control Plan*.

(iv) the regulations

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations do not prescribe any additional matters for consideration.

The environmental assessment of this application relevant to the Hume Shire Council Local Environmental Plan 2001 is covered in part (b) of the evaluation.

b) The likely impacts of the development including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality.

The application is not considered to have any significant negative social or economic impacts. A shed with a galvanised finish is located on the adjoining property.

c) Suitability of the site for the development

The proposed development is considered ancillary development.

d) Any submissions made in accordance with this Act or the regulations

No submissions have been received by Council.

e) The Public Interest

The proposal is not considered to be a nuisance to the public.

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DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 140-08/09 – SHED – LOT 81 DP 753727 – RIVERINA
HIGHWAY BUNGOWANNAH [CONT'D]

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The application should be approved as there are no identified negative impacts. Adjoining landowners were notified of the application and no submissions were received by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Development Application 140-08/09 for a shed at Lot 81 DP753727 Riverina Highway Bungowannah is approved subject to the following conditions:

1. All works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and specifications endorsed DA 140-08/09 except where modified by any conditions of this consent.
2. The shed is not to be used for residential, commercial or industrial purposes.
3. The subject allotment is located in a designated bush fire prone area. Any future development design concept will have to be considered under the "Planning for Bush Fire protection 2006' guidelines.
4. Run-off and erosion controls must be implemented before construction to prevent soil erosion, water pollution or the discharge of loose sediment on surrounding land, as follows:
 - Divert uncontaminated run-off around cleared or disturbed areas,
 - Erect a silt fence to prevent debris escaping into drainage systems or waterways,
 - Prevent tracking of sediment by vehicles onto roads,
 - Stockpile topsoil, excavated material, construction and landscaping supplies and debris within the site.
5. Provide a temporary on-site toilet if access to existing toilets is not adequate.
6. Protect and support any neighbouring buildings and land.
7. Protect any public land or place from obstruction, inconvenience or damage due to the carryout of the development.
8. Prevent any substance from falling into any public land or place.

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DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 140-08/09 – SHED – LOT 81 DP 753727 – RIVERINA
HIGHWAY BUNGOWANNAH [CONT'D]

9. The completed building is to have a drainage system so that:
 - The land surrounding any structure is graded to divert surface water to the street, and is clear of existing and proposed structures and adjoining premises.
 - If the water drains to the rear of the property, it is collected and drained via a gravity system to a council stormwater line or disposed of in a manner consistent with the council's soil and management policy.
 - All stormwater runoff is to be collected on-site and conveyed to Councils lawful point.

10. Building is not to be occupied prior to issuing an Occupation Certificate.

Conditions have been placed on the consent for the following reasons:

1. To ensure the compliance with the terms of the Environmental Planning Instruments.
2. Having regard to Council's duties of consideration under Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, as well as Section 80A which authorises the imposing of consent conditions.
3. Having regard to the comments made by referral authorities and submissions received from the public.

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3. WOOMARGAMA LANDFILL AND MULLENGANDRA TRANSFER STATION

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor – Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

To provide Council with an update on the Woomargama Landfill and proposed Mullengandra Transfer Station.

DISCUSSION

Woomargama Landfill

Council's Waste Attendant has commenced providing free access to the Woomargama Landfill for residents of Bowna/Wymah and Mullengandra. A new site office and porta-loo have been delivered to the Woomargama Landfill site. As previously advised the office and toilet will be relocated to the new Mullengandra Transfer Station when established.

Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) have issued the licence for the Woomargama Landfill with conditions. There are two (2) main conditions, which will significantly increase costs:

- No green waste burning
- Covering of waste.

Arrangements have been made for Jindera Bobcat & Machinery Services, who maintain several other landfills and transfer stations in the shire, to regularly push and tidy up rubbish at this landfill.

Council will need to transport the green waste off site to another landfill (Holbrook) for burning, chip the green waste on site or bury the green waste as part of the closure plan. All these options have a negative impact on the waste budget.

Arrangements have been made for consultants Infrastructure Solutions to prepare a Closure Plan and this document should be completed for submission to DECC by early August for approval.

Given the financial impacts of the licensing requirements it will be prudent to close the Woomargama Landfill as soon as possible after construction of the Mullengandra Transfer Station.

Mullengandra Transfer Station

Various discussions and onsite meetings have taken place with the RTA and Abigroup regarding access to and the development of the proposed transfer station.

RTA now own Lot 90 DP753350 and are currently engaging surveyors to prepare subdivision plans for the area (1.823 hectares) for sale to Council. The RTA have also been requested to provide, via a lease agreement, temporary access to the site when Abigroup vacate the site.

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WOOMARGAMA LANDFILL AND MULLENGANDRA TRANSFER STATION [CONT'D]

Abigroup intend to decommission the concrete batching plant by the end of June and rehabilitate the site by the end of July. It is hoped that during the rehabilitation of the site some of the earthworks for the proposed transfer station can be undertaken.

The necessary site plan and other details are under preparation for the development application process. To confirm that the development is not deemed Designated Development surveyors have been engaged to measure the distance from the development site to the nearest dwelling which must be at least 250 metres.

The RTA and DECC will be consulted during the development process and it is likely that they may require that there be no burning or incineration of any waste, particularly green waste, on this site due to the proximity of the new freeway. Council may therefore have to consider allowing green waste disposal in the skips and transport green waste with the general waste off-site.

It is anticipated that the transfer station will be operational before the end of 2009.

Consideration could also be given to providing 240 litre recyclable bins and a 3 cubic metre cardboard recycling bin at the new transfer station. Four to five (4-5) 240 litre bins on a fortnightly collection could be trialled as could the cardboard bin on a monthly collection trial.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council have increased the budget allocation from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for the closure process. This is ultimately dependent on the requirements of DECC and may again need to be increased.

The cost of providing 240 litre recyclable bins and a cardboard bin will be approximately \$725 per annum.

CONCLUSION

Licence conditions for the Woomargama Landfill are onerous and a speedy transfer to a Mullengandra facility is very desirable.

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WOOMARGAMA LANDFILL AND MULLENGANDRA TRANSFER STATION [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Enter into a temporary lease of Lot 90 DP753350 with the RTA during the purchase process.
2. Authorize the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Lease documentation under the Common Seal of Council.
3. Trial the provision of five (5) 240 litre recyclable bins at the new Mullengandra Transfer Station for a period of six (6) months.
4. Trial the provision of a 3 cubic metre cardboard recycling bin at the new Mullengandra Transfer Station for a period of six (6) months.
5. Allow the disposal of green waste in the waste skips for off-site disposal should development approval conditions so warrant.
6. Close the Woomargama Landfill one (1) month after the Mullengandra Transfer Station opens.

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4. COMMUNITY BASED HERITAGE STUDY (CBHS)

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor – Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

An objection has been received from owners of a building recently listed on Council's Schedule 5 Heritage Items list.

DISCUSSION

Background

Council will recall at its Ordinary Meeting on 18 March 2009 considering the draft Heritage List (Schedule 5) for inclusion in the Draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

A Community Heritage Working Group prepared the draft list and over 550 letters were forwarded to persons/groups with properties listed as existing heritage items and/or within existing conservation areas as well as those properties proposed to be included on the draft Heritage Item List and proposed Conservation Areas. Information sessions were also conducted in Culcairn, Holbrook and Jindera in early February.

Comment

Council has received correspondence from the owners of 283 Sweetwater Road Mullengandra objecting to the inclusion of "Woolshed built by Taskis Family" (Item No. 1790501) and provides reasons for not initially responding to Council correspondence in January 2009. A copy of this correspondence is attached as **ANNEXURE 3**.

The above building is currently on the Heritage Items List and forms part of the Schedule 5 Heritage Items of the Draft LEP. The Draft LEP has been forwarded to the Department of Planning by Council's planning consultants.

As the Heritage Items Schedule 5 listing is part of the Draft LEP, which is yet to go on public exhibition, these heritage items and places may again be amended with items deleted and/or added to it.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Council may determine to accede to this request for removal, given the circumstances provided, or it could advise the owners that an objection should be submitted to the Draft LEP when placed on public exhibition.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council remove Item No. 1790501 from the Heritage List, and the building be retained on Council's Heritage Database as a place of historical interest.

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5. STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY (EXEMPT AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CODES) 2008

Report prepared by Town Planning Consultant - James Laycock

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Further to the Council Meeting on 15 April 2009 in regard to the report regarding *State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008* ("the Codes SEPP"), it has since been discovered that one of the recommendations contained an omission:- the word "Hume" should also have been included in the resolution detailed below:

2. Council request the Minister for Planning to remove the word "Holbrook" from Part 2 of Schedule 1 of *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 60 – Exempt and Complying Development*.

The resolution should have stated "Holbrook and Hume". The purpose of this report is to correct this omission.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Reference is made to the report presented to the Council Meeting on 15 April 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council request the Minister for Planning to remove the word "Hume" from Part 2 of Schedule 1 of *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 60 – Exempt and Complying Development*.

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6. JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL REPRESENTATION

Report prepared by Director Environment & Planning - Mike Davies

REASON FOR REPORT

On 5 May 2009, the NSW Department of Planning (the Department) released a request for nominations to the Joint Regional Planning Panels (JRPPs). A copy of the request and associated information package is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY** with this report for Council's information.

DISCUSSION

The reforms to the NSW planning system that have been proposed and implemented by the Department included the creation of JRPPs. JRPPs are to commence from 1 July 2009. The functions of JRPPs are:

- To exercise certain consent authority functions for "Regional Development"; and
- Where requested, advise the NSW Minister for Planning on planning or development matters or environmental planning instruments in respect to the JRPP's region.

For the purpose of JRPPs, Regional Development includes:

- Commercial, residential, retail and tourism with capital investment value (CIV) between \$10M and \$100M.;
- Public and private community infrastructure and ecotourism with a CIV of more than \$5M;
- Designated development (EIS required);
- Certain major coastal development (not applicable to Greater Hume Shire Council LGA); and
- Developments over \$5M, where Council is the proponent or is conflicted (eg land owner or lessee).

There will be six regions across the state and JRPPs will be established for each region.

JRPPs comprise five members, three of which are state appointed and participate in JRPP matters across that region, and two council appointed members, who participate in JRPP where consideration of development and planning matters are particular to their Local Government Area (LGA). The term of appointment is for up to three years. The responsibilities and appointment terms and conditions for JRPP members are included within the "Information Package for Council Nominees" included with this report (see attachment)

Council needs to nominate two representatives and an alternate to become members of the JRPP for matters pertaining to the Greater Hume Shire Council LGA.

The Department has stated that JRPPs should comprise a broad range of skills and experience in development and planning matters and advised that the selection criteria for JRPPs includes:

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JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL REPRESENTATION [CONT'D]

- Senior level experience in dealing with multiple stakeholders,
- High level communication skills,
- Capability to drive high profile outcomes,
- High level analytical skills, and
- Knowledge of the assessment of complex developments and planning matters.

The Department has also advised that at least one of the Council panellists must have a high level of expertise in one or more of the following fields:

- Planning,
- Architecture,
- Heritage,
- The environment,
- Law,
- Urban design,
- Land economics,
- Traffic and transport,
- Engineering, or
- Tourism.

In submitting any nominations, Council should address each of the section criteria and include an outline of the nominee's qualifications, skills, attributes and experience under each criterion, along with examples of their achievements relevant to the criterion.

The Department has advised that administrative and technical support for the operation of the JRPPs will be provided by the Planning Assessment Commission Panel Secretariat and through the Regional Branches of the Department of Planning, however it is anticipated that there will be some financial implications for Council, but this cannot be properly determined at this stage.

At an information session on 15 June 2009, representatives of the Department of Planning confirmed that councillors and staff would be highly likely to be seen to have a conflict of interest if serving an a JRPP on developments within their own shire. Thus, contact has been made with Lockhart Shire suggesting a swap of nominations.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

If an application is referred to the JRPP it almost certainly will cost more; however, the State Government is unable to provide details.

CONCLUSION

The formation of JRPPs was an integral component of the reforms to the NSW Planning System and is to commence from 1 July 2009. Council can refuse to nominate representatives, but this could significantly disadvantage Council when any relevant matters are considered by the JRPP involving Greater Hume Shire Council.

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JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL REPRESENTATION [CONT'D]

Whilst the Department stresses that members of the JRPP need to be cognisant of the fact that they are not officials of Council when conducting JRPP business, having a presence on the JRPP will still permit a conduit of information for Greater Hume Shire Council and ensure fair and equal representation of the local community's views and expectations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. nominate one Councillor to be a member of the JRPP, with a further Councillor nominated as an alternate member in the event of unavailability or absence;
2. nominate the Director of Environment & Planning, Mr Michael Davies, to be the second member of the JRPP, with Council's Building Surveyor, Mr Wayne Allen, as an alternate member in the event of unavailability or absence;
3. offer the nominations to Lockhart Shire Council to be that Council's nominations for the Lockhart JRPP; and
4. endorse as its JRPP representatives Councillor Peter M Yates and Robert C Crawford of Lockhart Shire Council.

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7. ALBURY CITY COUNCIL WASTE FEES

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor – Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Council of increased disposal fees at the Albury City Waste Management Centre (AWMC).

DISCUSSION

Albury City has provided Council with their proposed Waste Management Centre Fees for the 2009-2010 financial year. A copy of this document is attached at **ANNEXURE 4**.

The Albury Waste Management Centre is the major regional waste facility and Council currently transports waste from its Burrumbuttock, Gerogery and Jindera Transfer Station to that facility.

Albury's facility requires significant infrastructure development which is scheduled to commence in the new financial year. These capital initiatives include facility upgrades to the gatehouse and weighbridge, separation areas for resource recovery material, pre-preparation for the gas management system, rehabilitation and site preparation into the Northern Valley which are all designed to assist the effective management of waste and significantly reduce the amount of waste landfilled.

The key change that will have a significant impact on Greater Hume and its waste budget is the increase of "solid waste disposal" from \$34.50 per tonne to \$47.00 per tonne. As Greater Hume transport approximately 1000 tonnes to the AWMC this equates to an additional \$12,500 in disposal costs from the current (and previous) years.

It is felt that it will be difficult to "absorb" these costs in the current budget allocation and consideration to increasing the budget for waste accordingly may be warranted.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Management will aim to absorb within existing budgets.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

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GOVERNANCE

2. EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Council of action taken in relation to the implementation of recommendations from the External Organisational Review conducted by Employment Solutions.

DISCUSSION

At the Extraordinary meeting held on 6 May 2009 Council received a presentation on the External Organisational Review conducted by Employment Solutions and resolved the following:

- 1. The recommended structure for the Engineering Department detailed on page 117, as amended be adopted,*
- 2. The General Manager prepare a response on all other recommendations by the August 2009 meeting of Council.*
- 3. The General Manager at his discretion, be authorised to release operational aspects of the review to staff.*

In relation to the Engineering Department position descriptions have been prepared for a number of positions and advertising for the positions will commence in the coming weeks.

An amended version of the External Organisational Review along with the staff climate survey has been made available to all staff.

In relation to a response to all other recommendations detailed below is a response to a number of recommendations and a timeline for responding on the balance.

Recommendation 1 – Council identity and name

Greater Hume Shire Council should undertake a process with the community and staff to determine the Council identity and name. The adoption of the new identity is to mark the completion of the amalgamation process and be the starting of a fully unified and integrated organisation.

Issues –

Whilst the Council identity continues to cause angst in some quarters Management is of the view that if a name change was to be considered it should have been addressed by the first elected Council. It is now 5 years since the amalgamation and significant resources have been invested in the name "Greater Hume Shire" and it is the view of Management that consideration of a name change now would be a retrograde step.

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Recommendation –

No action be taken.

Recommendation 2 – Consolidation of office locations

Council should develop and adopt a phased strategy for relocating all administration positions and functions to a single office location by a set date. Subject to further investigation, a preliminary recommendation for the office location is Culcairn.

Issues –

There is little doubt that the operation of two main offices has the potential to be more inefficient than having one consolidated operation and at some time in the future this matter will have to be formally addressed by Council as has been the case with most amalgamated Victorian Councils.

At this time however, Management is of the view that Council does not have the resources (financial or human) to implement such a radical change. Council has a number of significant issues to address such as preparing the Holbrook and Woomargama communities for the impending bypasses, implementation of long term planning and economic development.

Further, neither the Culcairn or Holbrook Offices has sufficient office accommodation for all administrative staff and the cost to provide additional accommodation of either site would be significant.

Management is of the view that some of the inefficiencies can be overcome by improving communication methods also recommended in the review.

The decision to consolidate into one office should not be made at least until Council has a long term Community Strategic Plan (supported by a fully functioning asset management system and long term financial plan) in place.

Recommendation

That no action be taken on Recommendation 2 during the term of the current Council.

Recommendation 3 – Consolidation of depot locations

Council should develop and adopt a phased strategy for relocating all engineering department outdoor positions currently located in Holbrook, Culcairn and Jindera to a major depot and a sub-depot in the west of the Shire by a set date. Subject to further investigation, a preliminary recommendation for the major location is Holbrook.

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Issues –

The consolidation of depot locations onto a single site at Holbrook seems ill conceived for a number of reasons and would seem has been introduced to ensure core employment numbers would be retained at Culcairn and Holbrook should Culcairn be chosen as the site for a consolidated office.

Holbrook is geographically placed to the eastern side of the Shire and is remote to the majority of Council's infrastructure.

Whilst two depot locations has been sited as a reason for some Council inefficiencies these inefficiencies can be overcome by introduction of other work practices such as rationalisation of Council's overseer structure, realigning some staff positions, commencing work on site rather than at a depot location etc.

The Works Depot at Culcairn is well appointed and it would seem counterproductive to decommission the Culcairn depot only to have to build a sub depot in the west of the Shire when this role is currently being performed by the Jindera Depot.

Whilst the Jindera Depot is significantly larger than required the disposal of this site and establishment of a sub depot elsewhere would not provide any real financial benefit to Council. Part of the Jindera Depot is leased returning \$15,000 pa to Council offsetting the over capitalisation of this site at this time.

Recommendation

That no action be taken on Recommendation 3 during the term of the current Council.

Recommendation 5 – Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) membership

Council should consider membership of only one ROC, to focus and use its resources where they can achieve the greatest benefit for Council and the local community.

Issues –

In the 2009/2010 Budget the following amounts have been included for membership of Regional Organisations of Councils:

REROC - \$ 17,420

RAMROC - \$6,290

Note that RAMROC have an associate membership category whereby a 50% reduction applies if a council is a member of two ROCs. REROC does not have an associate membership category.

Clearly there are benefits of remaining a member of both ROC's as it allows Council to obtain grant funding for projects in both areas. Recent examples are Emergency Management Funding of almost \$50,000 through RAMROC and the Stormwater Water funding and Village Green funding at Jindera totalling \$264,500.

In addition to membership costs there are additional staff costs of Senior and Managerial Staff (at times) attending meetings of both ROC's but it is considered that the benefits far outweigh the costs.

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Recommendation

That Council review membership of REROC and RAMROC on an annual basis.

Recommendation 18 – Focussing of services and resources

Council should provide greater focus in its services and resources on the residents of Greater Hume Shire by reviewing its continued operation of the aged care facility in Howlong.

Issues –

The proposed sale of the nursing home beds at Holbrook and proposed relocation of aged services (HACC, Community Options, and Dementia Respite etc.) to Jindera provides an ideal opportunity for Council to review its future strategy in relation to aged care including the continued operation of the Howlong Aged Care Hostel on behalf of the Corowa Shire.

Recommendation

A report on this matter has been included with the June Council Meeting Agenda.

The following table provides a timeline for reporting on other recommendations (with the exception of matters regarding staff which have been included with the Closed Council Agenda).

Recommendation	Comment	Monthly meeting
<p>Recommendation 4 – s.218CA Policy Council should establish a “Policy for regular staff numbers at rural centres” to ensure its compliance with s.218CA of the Local Government Act 1993.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 6 – Engineering resources for Asset Management</p>	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
<p>Recommendation 7 – Recruitment policy Council should review its recruitment policy, particularly to generate clear expectations about the advertising of positions and to reduce the potential for perceived bias in the constitution of selection panels.</p>	Draft policy has been presented to Consultative Committee for consideration.	July

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Recommendation	Comment	Monthly meeting
<p>Recommendation 8 – Internal communication</p> <p>1. Council should review the internal communication protocol and ensure that there is sufficient opportunity for all staff to be kept abreast of Council decisions.</p> <p>2. Council should set up at least six-monthly all-manager meetings to ensure the leadership group is fully involved and aware of important change management processes.</p> <p>3. Council should review the protocols around allocation of tasks to staff members and ensure that immediate supervisors are always at least made aware if senior management requires particular work done by a staff member.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 9 – Internal reporting</p> <p>Council should move to a consolidated, comprehensive internal reporting system which covers all areas of operations.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 10 – Performance management system</p> <p>Based on the internal reporting system, Council should review its performance management system to ensure it measures relevant KPI's and objectives and provides staff with appropriate development plans.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 11 – Succession planning</p> <p>1. Council should continue a proactive succession planning process, identifying key positions, and providing sufficient resources to be able to retain corporate knowledge and avoid disruptions to operations through retirement of key personnel.</p> <p>2. Council should consider creating trainee positions.</p>	<p>This recommendation has been partially implemented through the adoption of the Engineering structure.</p>	August

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Recommendation	Comment	Monthly meeting
<p>Recommendation 12 – Workforce development Council should encourage opportunities for staff in leadership and specialist roles to attend conferences and then deliver in-house training, in order to continually grow industry knowledge within the workforce.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 13 – Reported to Closed Council</p>		August
<p>Recommendation 14 – Community surveys Council should conduct regular community surveys to gather objective data on community experiences with Council, priorities, and expectations.</p>	Funding in 2011/2012 Budget for community surveying. This may have to be brought forward or interim surveying tools be developed in house for specific functions (eg: customer service)	August
<p>Recommendation 15 – Councillor – Council staff relationship Council should strive, within the confines of the relevant Act and Regulations, to find creative ways of building a positive, respectful councillor – staff relationship.</p>	Code of Conduct Training undertaken May 2009.	July
<p>Recommendation 16 – RTA Contract Management</p>	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
<p>Recommendation 17 – Responding to environmental and economic challenges Council should consider dedicating a resource to develop creative responses to the challenges posed by the present rapid changes in climate and economy.</p>		August
<p>Recommendation 19.2 – Reported to Closed Council</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 20 – Reported to Closed Council.</p>		July

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Recommendation	Comment	Monthly meeting
<p>Recommendation 21 – Customer service meetings Council should provide the opportunity for regular customer service staff meetings through a change in opening hours.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 22 – Customer service from other departments and sections Council should measure and enforce customer service standards across all departments. For customer service and workflows across departments, service level agreements should be established.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 23 – Reduction in the number of waste facilities Council should reduce the number of waste facilities in order to ensure operations are economically viable and the Environment & Planning Department can be further streamlined.</p>		July
<p>Recommendation 24 – Reported to Closed Council</p>		
<p>Recommendation 25 – Reported to Closed Council.</p>		August
<p>Recommendation 26 – Reported to Closed Council.</p>		August
<p>Recommendation 27 – Customer service Council should review the customer service arrangements in the Environment & Planning Department and provide performance management and training, as well as consider the introduction of specific times when staff are available for public enquiries without appointment.</p>		August

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EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW [CONT'D]

Recommendation	Comment	Monthly meeting
Recommendation 28 – Creating the position of Assets / GIS Officer	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
Recommendation 29 – Creating the position of Asset Engineer	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
Recommendation 30 - Assets and design section	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
Recommendation 31 – Works section	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
Recommendation 32 – Additional staff member in Water and Sewer section	Determined at Extraordinary meeting in May	Completed
Recommendation 33 – Engineering conditions on DA's		July

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil, at this time.

CONCLUSION

Management is enthusiastic about the report and is of the view that broadly the recommendations will lead to significant improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION

In relation to the External Organisational Review that following action be taken in relation to:

Recommendation 1 – Council identity and name

No action be taken

Recommendation 2 – Consolidation of office locations

That no action be taken during the term of the current Council.

Recommendation 3 – Consolidation of depot locations

That no action be taken during the term of the current Council.

Recommendation 5 – Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) membership

That Council review membership of REROC and RAMROC on an annual basis.

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3. LAKE HUME LAND AND ON-WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Councillors of an invitation to nominate a representative to the Lake Hume and On-Water Management Plan Community Reference Group.

DISCUSSION

On 7 May a meeting was conducted between the representatives of the five Shires with a direct interest in Lake Hume, the Murray Darling Association and Goulburn-Murray Water to present the Lake Hume Land and On-Water Management Plan. At this meeting it was also determined to establish a Community Reference Group (CRG) to provide advice on the implementation of the Lake Hume and On-Water Management Plan. Greater Hume Shire was represented at the meeting held on 7 May by Cr McDonald.

It was agreed that the CRG should comprise:

- An impartial and respected Chair.
- An elected Councillor from each of Towong, Greater Hume, Wodonga, Albury and Indigo.
- At least 5 community representatives with specific interests and broad representation across the community, including downstream water users.

The process to establish the CRG is detailed below:

1. Nomination of the five Shire representatives (Representatives should be an elected representative of the Shire).
2. Shires to provide Murray Darling Basin Commission and Goulburn Murray Water with suggestions for suitable persons to fill the role of impartial Chair.
3. Murray Darling Basin Association and Goulburn Murray Water to draft Terms of Reference for consideration by Councils and CRG. Copy attached as **ANNEXURE 5**.
4. Shire representatives, MDBA and GMW meet to agree to appointment of the impartial Chair.
5. MDBA/GMW to facilitate a public call for applications for community representative positions on the CRG.
6. The independent Chair and the representatives of Council review of applications and agree to the selection of suitable candidates; and also review and endorse Terms of Reference.

Council's Input into points 1 & 2 are sought.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Negligible.

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LAKE HUME LAND AND ON-WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP
[CONT'D]

CONCLUSION

Cr McDonald is already Council's nominated delegate to the Lake Hume Land and On Water Management Plan – Community Advisory Committee and it would seem appropriate that he be endorsed as Council's representative to this slightly modified Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. endorse Cr McDonald as Council's representative to the Lake Hume Land and On-Water Management Plan Community Reference Group.
2. Consider suitable nominations for the position of impartial Chair of the Community Reference Group.

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**4. BROCKLESBY RECREATION RESERVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE –
PROPOSED BMX TRACK**

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of a proposal to construct a BMX track at the Brocklesby Recreation Reserve and seeking Council's endorsement of fundraising endeavours.

DISCUSSION

The Brocklesby Recreation Reserve Management Committee has endorsed a proposal from the community to develop a BMX track at the Recreation Reserve.

A Sub Committee has been formed who are responsible for fundraising for the facility as well planning and design. To date the Sub Committee has been successful in obtaining the necessary dirt, and acquiring the services of a Bobcat and operator at a reduced rate.

Funds will also be needed for other improvements such as fencing and approaches have been made to a number of organisations for assistance. Feedback from some organisations indicates that support from Council by the way of a letter of support would assist in their fundraising endeavours.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

It is important that Council support individual communities in their endeavours to improvement recreational facilities and therefore an "in-principle" letter of support should be provided.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide an "in principle" letter of support to the Brocklesby Recreation Reserve in their endeavours to establish a BMX track at the Brocklesby Recreation Reserve, subject to Council approving the final design and construction.

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5. AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT – 25 JUNE 2009

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of the attendance of the Mayor at the second meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government to be held in Canberra on 25 June 2009.

DISCUSSION

The second meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government is to be held in Canberra on 25 June 2009 with the theme, 'Building Resilient Communities'.

Councillors will recall that at the inaugural meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government the Prime Minister announced the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Travel and accommodation costs can be met from Councillors Conference expenses.

CONCLUSION

For many years local government has sought recognition from Federal and State Governments and it is important that this initiative of the Federal Government be supported.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the attendance of the Mayor at the meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government to be held in Canberra on 25 June 2009 and that reasonable travel and accommodation expenses be reimbursed.

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**6. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – FUNDING FOR
EMPLOYMENT OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise that Council's application for funding to the Department of State and Regional Development has been successful.

DISCUSSION

It was reported to the May meeting that Council had sought funding for the employment of an Economic Development Officer on the following basis:

Funding Source	Comment	Amount
Greater Hume Shire Council	\$25,000 to be carried forward from 2008/2009 and \$25,000 pa for two years	\$75,000
Department of State and Regional Development	Funding over two years	\$75,000
Roads and Traffic Authority	Funding over two years	\$75,000
Total		\$225,000

Advice has now been received from the Department of State and Regional Development that Council's application for funding has been successful.

A condition of the funding agreement is that 2 business representatives be invited and accept positions on the Steering Committee to progress the project plan as detailed in the funding agreement.

Extensive advertising is scheduled and commenced on Saturday 20 June 2009 and it is expected that the position is at a level that will attract significant interest. A copy of the advertisement is attached as **ANNEXURE 6**.

A suitable date is currently being sought to convene a meeting of Council's Economic Development Committee (comprising Councillors McDonald, McInerney, Wilton, Ross, O'Neill and the Mayor as an Ex Officio member. Matters for inclusion on the Agenda of the Economic Development Committee will include:

1. Ratification (or otherwise) of the project plan (attached at **ANNEXURE 6**).
2. Determination of how the two business representatives will be selected.
3. Update on existing projects.
4. Other relevant matters.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – FUNDING FOR EMPLOYMENT OF
AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER [CONT'D]

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the position has been included in the 2009/2010 Management Plan and Estimates of Income and Expenditure.

CONCLUSION

Funding provided through the Department of State and Regional Development and the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority provides a very effective method of funding this position which will provide a high level of assistance in meeting the challenges in the short to medium term.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Economic Development Committee be authorised to determine the method and select two business representatives to form part of the Steering Committee.

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7. BUILDING THE COUNTRY PACKAGE – LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FUND

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Councillors of the outcome of an Expression of Interest for funding submitted for the development of the Holbrook Common as an Industrial Park.

DISCUSSION

As part of the November 2008 Mini Budget the NSW State Government announced the \$85 million 'Building the Country Package' which included \$52 million for a Local Infrastructure Support Fund.

Council submitted an Expression of Interest for the first round of funding that closed on 20 March 2009. Council has been advised that the Expression of Interest under the current round of funding has been unsuccessful.

Discussions with the Sydney and Albury offices of the Department of State and Regional Development indicate that Council Expression of Interest was rated highly, however, preference was given to projects with an almost immediate commencement date.

The Local Infrastructure Support Fund is a rolling program whereby applications unsuccessful in the first round of funding can be considered in subsequent funding rounds. Council has been strongly encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest to the next round of funding expected to be advertised in the first quarter of the 2009/2010 financial year.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Council has continued to develop the Holbrook Industrial Park proposal and Management is of the view that a stronger Expression of Interest can be submitted in the next round of funding.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the General Manager be authorised to submit further Expressions of Interest under the NSW Department of State and Regional Development's Local Infrastructure Support Fund for the development of an Industrial Park at Holbrook; and
2. the Mayor and General Manager seek to meet with the Minister for Regional Development to further the Expression of Interest.

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8. GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL - TIDY TOWNS GRANTS 2009

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To report to Council regarding the recommendation from the Greater Hume Shire Grants Committee with regard to the allocation of Tidy Towns Grant funding for 2009.

DISCUSSION

Council in its 2008/2009 Budget provided for \$20,000 funding for eligible Tidy Towns projects within Greater Hume Shire for the 2009 year.

A total of four (4) submissions were received from eligible committees.

A report was prepared by Council's Community Development Officer – Libby Ellis, which was distributed to members of Council's Grants Committee – Councillors Evans, Jacob and McInerney. Following is a summary of submissions received:

Applicant	Project	Amount
Culcairn Museum Committee	Upgrade paths	\$4,000
Henty Tidy Towns	Cemetery Toilet	\$4,000
Henty Community Development Committee	Community Newsletter	\$3,300
Headlie Taylor Header	Signage	\$5,000
TOTAL		\$16,300
Balance		\$3,700

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Nil – allocation made in 2008/2009 Budget. It is proposed that the unallocated amount of \$3,700 be added to the 2009/2010 Budget allocation.

CONCLUSION

All submissions satisfactorily meet the funding criteria, totalling \$16,300. Members of Council's Community Grants Committee have agreed to the expenditure under Council's Tidy Towns Grants Program.

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GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL- TIDY TOWNS GRANTS 2009 [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That

1. the 2008/2009 Tidy Towns Grants be granted to the following organisations; and

Applicant	Amount
Culcairn Museum Committee	\$4,000
Henty Tidy Towns	\$4,000
Henty Community Development Committee	\$3,300
Headlie Taylor Header	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$16,300

2. the balance of following allocation of expenditure, ie. \$3,700 be brought forward and added to the budgeted amount of \$20,000 for the 2010 Greater Hume Shire Tidy Towns Grants, equating to a total of \$23,700.

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CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2012

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

At the Council meeting held on 20 May 2009, Council resolved as follows: -

That the 2009/2012 Draft Management Plan incorporating Estimates of Income and Expenditure for Council's General, Sewerage and Water Supply be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing Monday 25 May 2009.

The Draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy has been publicly exhibited and made available for inspection at Council's two main offices, three customer service offices and Council's Website. Community meetings have also been held at Holbrook, Henty, Culcairn, Walla Walla and Jindera whereby interested members of the public have been provided with an outline of the Management Plan and associated budget.

At the time of writing this report, the following submissions have been received in relation to the Draft Management Plan. Copies of written submissions received are attached as **ANNEXURE 7**.

Colin Murray – Holbrook Skate Park

Submission requesting funding for the completion of the Holbrook Skate Park.

Management Comment

The financial components of the skate park project are as follows:

<i>Total project costs</i>	<i>\$60,509.44</i>
<i>Income Sport & Recreation Grant</i>	<i>\$11,000.00</i>
<i>Balance</i>	<i>\$49,509.44</i>

The balance of costs was partially funded by the Skate Park Committee with funds raised through cardboard recycling project. The former Holbrook Shire Council matched the Committee's funds on a dollar for dollar basis.

Lois Salzke – Street Beautification Projects

Submission questioning Council's proposal to undertake significant streetscape works at the major towns across the Shire.

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DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2012
[CONT'D]

Management Comment

No comment.

Walla Walla Literary Institute & Memorial Hall Committee

Request for funding to undertake a range of improvements at the hall in preparation for centenary celebrations in 2013.

Management Comment

It is recommended that Council advise the Committee to apply for project funding under Council's Community Development Grants programme.

Walla Walla Community Development Committee

Submission in relation to the planting of street trees in Commercial Street, Walla Walla.

Management Comment

Issues relating to the planting and future management of street trees will be examined in the Urban Design Plans to be developed for each of the major towns as part of Council's streetscape improvement project. In the shorter term there may be sufficient funding from the Regional & Local Community Infrastructure Programme to undertake some tree planting.

Henty Community Development Committee

Submission requesting the inclusion of footpath construction programmes in Railway Parade and Allen Street, Henty and the postponing of proposed resealing works on the Henty / Walla road from 2009/10 to 2010/11.

Management Comment

To be considered by Council.

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[CONT'D]

Andrea Cairns

Submission regarding a range of community infrastructure projects for Culcairn.

Management Comment

Concerns over footpaving and replanting of median strip in Balfour Street could be examined in the Urban Design Plans to be developed for each of the major towns as part of Council's streetscape improvement project.

Diane Mathieson

Submission regarding footpaving in Balfour Street, Culcairn

Management Comment

Concerns over footpaving in Balfour Street could be examined in the Urban Design Plans to be developed for each of the major towns as part of Council's streetscape improvement project.

Holbrook Community & Business Forum

Submission regarding proposed foot-paving works for Holbrook.

Management Comment

Director Engineering has no concerns with suggested amendment to foot-paving priorities.

Community Workshops

In addition to the written submissions received, a number of issues were raised by residents attending the Management Plan Community Workshops held at Holbrook, Henty, Culcairn, Walla Walla and Jindera over past weeks.

Following is a summary of the major issues raised at each community workshop.

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[CONT'D]

Community Meeting – Holbrook - 26 May 2009

32 people in attendance.

- *What affect will the bypass have on the value of properties?*
- *Have there been any submissions received regarding the set up of a service centre? Council resolved to support this venture and appears that there is some interest. It is likely that expressions of interest may be advertised in July/August 09.*
- *Is it known if there are any conditions or requirements that will be placed on Council from the RTA in the development of the main street, as they are providing some funding for this? Tenders have been called for streetscape works to be carried out and there has been a good level of interest generated to date.*
- *Will the garbage depot still be accessible after the completion of the bypass?*
- *What happens with the heritage listed properties that were identified in the LEP consultations – will they form part of the new streetscape design works?*
- *What is the likely time frame for all of Four Mile Lane to be sealed? – this will be determined during the development of a Roads Strategy and Asset Management Plan.*
- *MR331 east of Holbrook – alignment of road near culvert at the bottom of the Yarara Gap – is it possible to get the position of the road alignment of this area looked at, as it is quite dangerous.*
- *Mountain Creek Road – noted that work will be undertaken on the Hume Highway end but will there be more work on the rough sections near the intersection of MR331.*
- *Are there any proposals from Council to develop any further housing subdivisions?*
- *What is the timeframe for the sealing of Wallace and Bruce Streets in Holbrook? – will be completed to coincide with other works.*
- *MR331 – west of Holbrook – what realignment work will be done in the future on the dangerous bends on this stretch of road*
- *General discussion on Albury Street once the bypass has been completed and what works would be needed to ensure that the RTA handed over this road in a reasonable state. Interchange and access points were also discussed and General Manager advised that there would be more consultation from the RTA with the community once the final bypass route is determined.*

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[CONT'D]

Community Meeting – Henty - 27 May 2009

32 people in attendance.

Issues raised by those in attendance.

- *Footpaths in Henty – refer written submission from Henty Community Development Committee above. Comments also were raised in relation to the need for additional footpaving in Allan Street due to number of gophers in that area.*
- *In light of the recent devastating bushfires in Victoria, questions were raised as to status of emergency management plans for Henty in the event of a fire occurring in the Doodle Cooma Swamp which is located on the western side of Henty.*
- *Concern was raised over the poor state of the Grubben Road rail crossing.*

Community Meeting – Culcairn - 28 May 2009

16 people in attendance.

Issues raised by those in attendance.

- *Concern was raised over the narrowing of streets when reconstruction works are carried out. It was suggested that emergency service vehicles would have difficulty getting down particular streets if there were vehicles parked on both sides of the street.*

Community Meeting – Walla Walla - 9 June 2009

Approximately 20 people in attendance.

Issues raised by those in attendance.

- *Drainage issues in Commercial Street north of railway line. This has been an issue for a number of years and needs to be resolved.*
- *Development of Council's LEP and proposals relating to land in the Walla West Road area.*
- *Shade over playground equipment in Council parks needs urgent attention.*
- *"Welcome to Walla Walla" sign that used to be located over the main street. Where is it and will it be replaced?*
- *Median strip in Commercial Street in front of newsagent. Concern that the median strip makes the northbound lane too narrow and is dangerous when a car is parked in front of the newsagent. Traffic is not slowing down.*

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Community Meeting – Jindera - 10 June 2009

Approximately 20 people in attendance.

Issues raised by those in attendance.

- *Why have rates in Holbrook remained frozen when rates in all other areas are increasing?*
- *Poor performance of Council staff in relation to road construction. Why doesn't Council undertake compaction testing when constructing roads?*
- *Resealing of Stoney Park Road. One section where fine aggregate was used has stripped. Other areas where courser aggregate was used are fine. Why doesn't Council ensure that course aggregate is used at all times?*
- *Problems with obtaining a key to the toilet at the Jindera Shopping Centre. This toilet is able to be used by the public however it is often a problem to find the key.*
- *Lack of street lighting in Jindera.*

RECOMMENDATION

That the 2009/2012 Draft Management Plan incorporating estimates of income and expenditure for Council's General, Sewerage and Water Supply Funds and the Draft Revenue Policy be adopted.

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2. MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2009/2010

As stated, the Greater Hume Shire Council Management Plan incorporating details of the rates and charges proposed to be made for 2009/2010 has been on public exhibition from 25 May 2009.

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that the rates and charges be made by resolution and levied by the issue of a rates and charges notice on or before 1 August 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That the following rates and charges be made and levied for the rating year 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, comprising a base rate under Section 500 and an ad valorem amount under Section 498 of the Local Government Act 1993.

1. **Residential – Ordinary** – a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.004382 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Ordinary”. Income from base rate equates to 38.1% of total yield for sub category.
2. **Residential – Jindera** - a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.004703 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Jindera”. Income from base rate equates to 25.8% of total yield for sub category.
3. **Residential – Holbrook** – a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.011379 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Holbrook”. Income from base rate equates to 31.2% of total yield for sub category.
4. **Residential – Culcairn** - a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.010879 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Culcairn”. Income from base rate equates to 33.6% of total yield for sub category.
5. **Residential – Henty** – a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.010660 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Henty”. Income from base rate equates to 35.6% of total yield for sub category.
6. **Residential – Walla Walla** - a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.010102 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Walla Walla”. Income from base rate equates to 32.6% of total yield for sub category.
7. **Residential – Rural** – a base amount of \$150.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.003309 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Residential – Rural”. Income from base rate equates to 24.6% of total yield for sub category.
8. **Business – Ordinary** – a base amount of \$160.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.006324 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as “Business - Ordinary”. Income from base rate equates to 46.5% of total yield for sub category.

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MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2009/2010 [CONT'D]

9. **Business – Jindera** - a base amount of \$290.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.002603 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Business – Jindera". Income from base rate equates to 45.3% of total yield for sub category.
10. **Business – Holbrook** - a base amount of \$370.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.008674 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Business – Holbrook". Income from base rate equates to 47.5% of total yield for sub category.
11. **Business – Culcairn** – a base amount of \$160.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.010403 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Business – Culcairn". Income from base rate equates to 32.8% of total yield for sub category.
12. **Business – Henty** - a base amount of \$160.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.011844cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Business – Henty". Income from base rate equates to 33.5% of total yield for sub category.
13. **Business – Walla Walla** – a base amount of \$160.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.008884 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Business – Walla Walla". Income from base rate equates to 30.2% of total yield for sub category.
14. **Business – Non Urban** – a base amount of \$160.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.003853 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Business – Non Urban". Income from base rate equates to 46.6% of total yield for sub category.
15. **Farmland – Ordinary** – a base amount of \$250.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.002440 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Farmland - Ordinary". Income from base rate equates to 15.3% of total yield for sub category.
16. **Farmland – High Intensity Forestry** – a base amount of \$125.00 plus an ad valorem rate of 0.003378 cents in the dollar of land value of all rateable land categorised as "Farmland – High Intensity Forestry". Income from base rate equates to 14.8% of total yield for sub category.

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MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2009/2010 [CONT'D]

WATER SUPPLY RATES

1. Villages Water Supply

A Villages Water Access Charge under Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 as follows:

PRICING STRUCTURE - VILLAGES WATER SCHEME	
Component	2009/2010 Charges
Water Access Charge <u>Residential</u>	
20 mm	\$150.00
<u>Non – Residential</u>	
20mm	\$150.00
25mm	\$176.25
32mm	\$214.40
40mm	\$258.00
50mm	\$312.50
80mm	\$476.00
Usage	
< 200kl per kl	\$1.10
>200kl per kl	\$1.50

2. Culcairn Water Supply

A Culcairn Water Access Charge under Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 as follows:

PRICING STRUCTURE – CULCAIRN WATER SUPPLY	
Component	2009/2010 Charges
Water Access Charge <u>Residential</u>	
20 mm	\$90.00
<u>Non – Residential</u>	
20mm	\$90.00
25mm	\$95.00
32mm	\$116.00
40mm	\$140.00
50mm	\$170.00
80mm	\$260.00
Usage	
< 200kl per kl	\$0.80
>200kl per kl	\$0.95

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MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2009/2010 [CONT'D]

SEWERAGE RATES

3. Sewerage Scheme - Residential

A Sewer Access Charge under Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 as follows:

PRICING STRUCTURE – GREATER HUME SHIRE SEWERAGE SCHEMES	
Scheme	2009/2010 Charge
<u>Residential</u>	
Burrumbuttock	\$480
Jindera	\$240
Culcairn	\$285
Henty	\$210
Walla Walla	\$320
Holbrook	\$340

4. Sewer Scheme – Non Residential

A Sewer Access Charge under Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 as follows:

PRICING STRUCTURE – GREATER HUME SHIRE SEWERAGE SCHEMES	
Scheme	2009/2010 Charge
<u>NON Residential Access Charge</u>	
Burrumbuttock	
20mm	\$108.00
25mm	\$157.50
32mm	\$245.30
40mm	\$372.00
50mm	\$570.00
Usage	\$0.80 per kl x SDF (\$480 minimum charge p.a.)

PRICING STRUCTURE – GREATER HUME SHIRE SEWERAGE SCHEMES	
Scheme	2009/2010 Charge
<u>NON Residential Access Charge</u>	
Culcairn	
20mm	\$126.00
25mm	\$150.00
32mm	\$183.60
40mm	\$222.00
50mm	\$270.00
80mm	\$414.00
Usage	\$0.80 per kl x SDF (\$285 minimum charge p.a.)

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MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2009/2010 [CONT'D]

PRICING STRUCTURE – GREATER HUME SHIRE SEWERAGE SCHEMES	
Scheme	2009/2010 Charge
<u>NON Residential Access Charge</u>	
Jindera	
20mm	\$104.50
25mm	\$125.60
32mm	\$155.20
40mm	\$189.00
50mm	\$231.25
80mm	\$358.00
Usage	\$0.80 per kl x SDF (\$240 minimum charge p.a.)
Henty	
20mm	\$120.00
25mm	\$145.00
32mm	\$180.00
40mm	\$220.00
50mm	\$270.00
Usage	\$0.80 per kl x SDF (\$210 minimum charge p.a.)
Holbrook	
20mm	\$116.00
25mm	\$140.00
32mm	\$173.60
40mm	\$212.00
50mm	\$260.00
80mm	\$404.00
Usage	\$0.80 per kl x SDF (\$340 minimum charge p.a.)
Walla Walla	
20mm	\$143.00
25mm	\$168.75
32mm	\$204.80
40mm	\$246.00
50mm	\$297.50
Usage	\$0.80 per kl x SDF
SDF (Sewer Discharge Factor)	(\$320 minimum charge p.a.)

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MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2009/2010 [CONT'D]

DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

5. Residential

A domestic waste management charge of \$170.00 per service in respect of each parcel of land to which a domestic waste management service is both available and provided under Section 496 of the Local Government Act 1993.

6. Commercial

A commercial waste management charge of \$170.00 per service in respect of each parcel of land to which a non-domestic waste management service is both available and provided under Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

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3. VOLUNTEERS – HOLBROOK SUBMARINE MUSEUM

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To provide further advice to Council on future staffing arrangements at the Holbrook Visitor Information Centre and Submarine Museum.

DISCUSSION

At its February meeting, Council resolved that, subject to the concurrence of the Holbrook Submarine Museum and Visitor Information Centre Committee, the VIC and Submarine Museum be operated each Sunday using volunteer hours provided by members and supporters of the Holbrook Submarine Museum and Visitor Information Centre Committee. It was further resolved that on those days where the Visitor Information Centre is operated by volunteers provided by the Committee, the income from admissions to the Museum on that day be retained by the Committee. This arrangement commenced from 3 May 2009.

Council has been informed that the Holbrook Submarine Museum and Visitor Information Centre Committee met on 19 May 2009 whereby it was resolved that:

"The Committee is to advise Council that, with regret, volunteering on Sundays is not feasible at this time."

As a result of the Committee's decision, paid staff re-commenced operating the facility commencing Sunday 31 May 2009.

As Council has previously been advised, The Visitor Information Centre has achieved the status of an Accredited Visitor Information Centre Level 2. Under the requirements of level 2 status, the facility must be open for a minimum of 42 hours per week and can only be closed for 2 days each year (Christmas Day and Good Friday). This requirement essentially means that the Visitor Information Centre is a 7-Day per week operation.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The total daily cost of paid staff operating the VIC and Submarine Museum on Sundays is approximately \$290 (based on 6 hours engagement). This cost will be offset by retention income from admissions on that day which would otherwise have been retained by the Committee under the previous arrangement. To date, average daily admissions equate to approximately \$136 per day.

Whilst there is clearly a disparity between the costs and income associated with opening the VIC and Submarine Museum on Sundays, there is an expectation that the development of the hologram project at the museum will result in greater interest in the facility and an associated increased level of income.

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VOLUNTEERS – HOLBROOK SUBMARINE MUSEUM [CONT'D]

It should also be noted that the VIC and Submarine Museum are important tourist assets for the Shire and the attraction of visitors to the VIC and Museum provides direct benefits to other businesses in Holbrook and provides promotional opportunities for other businesses and facilities across the Shire.

CONCLUSION

The Visitor Information Centre and Submarine Museum are critical elements of Council's tourism promotion strategy. Whilst it is unfortunate that the Holbrook Submarine Museum and Visitor Information Centre Committee cannot provide the level of volunteer support as was originally envisaged, the operations of the VIC and Submarine Museum require Council's ongoing commitment with the ultimate aim of increasing visitation rates to a level at which the facility is financially self sufficient.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

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4. BURRUMBUTTOCK RECREATION RESERVE – OFFER OF ADDITIONAL LAND

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of an offer from the NSW Department of Lands to include an additional two significant parcels of land to the Burrumbuttock Recreation Reserve.

DISCUSSION

Greater Hume Shire Council and the former Hume Shire Council has for some time been attempting to seek definitive clarification from the NSW Department of Lands as to the exact status of a number of parcels of crown land surrounding the Burrumbuttock Recreation Reserve. The parcels of land in question are Lot 7006 DP1052657 and Lot 7002 DP 1052656. A property map highlighting the relevant parcels of land is included as **ANNEXURE 8**.

The matter that originally brought the status of the parcels of land into question was a proposal from the Burrumbuttock community to establish an agro-forestry development on Lot 7002 DP1052656 which adjoins the western boundary of the Burrumbuttock Recreation Reserve. The parcel of land in question is commonly known as Public Watering Place (PWP) 443 and is a remnant piece of land left over from a larger parcel of land originally designated as the Burrumbuttock Town Water Supply.

As mentioned, Council's attempts to clarify the status of the parcels of land has been ongoing for many years. In fact, correspondence between the former Hume Shire and the Department of Lands goes back to 1996. At that time, Hume Shire Council formally resolved to accept care and control of PWP 443; however, gazettal of the transfer was never initiated by the Department of Lands.

As a result of constant follow-up with the Department of Lands over recent months, correspondence has now been received confirming that the Department will be taking action to reserve Lot 7006 DP1052657, Lot 7002 DP 1052656 and additional parcel of crown land, Lot 1856 DP 753730 for Public Recreation and Environmental Protection. Whilst the Department of Lands have rejected the original proposal of the agro-forestry project, the overall outcome is, nonetheless, a great result and will provide Council and the Burrumbuttock community with an opportunity to explore a range of ideas for the future management of the land.

In order to facilitate finalisation of this matter, the Department of Lands require confirmation that Council will accept care and control of the specified parcels of land for the purpose of Public Recreation and Environmental Protection.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

At this stage there are no direct budget implications associated with this matter. There may, however, be costs associated with any future projects undertaken on the land, however these will be examined on a case by case basis and will be subject to separate reports to Council at the relevant time.

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BURRUMBUTTOCK RECREATION RESERVE – OFFER OF ADDITIONAL LAND [CONT'D]

CONCLUSION

The Department of Lands' advice in this matter is a positive outcome for Council and the residents of Burrumbuttock and it is recommended that Council accept care and control of Lot 7006 DP1052657, Lot 7002 DP 1052656 and Lot 1856 DP 753730 for the purpose of Public Recreation and Environmental Protection.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept care and control of Lot 7006 DP1052657, Lot 7002 DP 1052656 and Lot 1856 DP 753730 for the purpose of Public Recreation and Environmental Protection.

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5. GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL STAFF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To present a recommendation that membership of the Greater Hume Shire Council Staff Consultative Committee be amended.

DISCUSSION

Council has statutory and industrial responsibilities to develop an effective consultation mechanism in relation to industrial relations matters.

At present, Council's Staff Consultative Committee actively participate in the consultative process and provide a regular forum for staff to raise matters of concern.

Membership of the Committee is currently made up of representatives from general staff, management, unions and elected Councillors. Councillor McInerney was the appointed Councillor delegate on the Consultative Committee, however at the May meeting of Council Councillor McInerney advised Council of his resignation from the Committee.

The resignation of Councillor McInerney has provided Council with an opportunity to examine the membership of the Staff Consultative Committee.

The appropriateness of appointing elected Councillors to staff committees such as the Consultative Committee has been the subject of some debate over recent years. According to the Department of Local Government, it is not appropriate that Councillors be appointed to consultative committees given the delineation between the role of the elected council and the General Manager in relation to staffing matters. This point has been reinforced in a number of Promoting Better Practice reports issued by the Department, and specific recommendations have been made to review the Committee membership where it has been highlighted that Councillors have been appointed to the Consultative Committee.

In light of the Department's opinion on this matter, it would seem prudent for Council to review the membership of the Staff Consultative Committee and remove the requirement for an elected Councillor to be a member of the Committee.

It should be noted that the Department has stressed that whilst, in their view, it is inappropriate for Councillors to be members of Consultative Committees, Management should distribute minutes of Consultative Committee meetings to Councillors for their information. This will enable Councillors to develop effective Council policy on industrial issues and remain informed about current issues and outcomes.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

There are no budget implications associated with this matter.

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GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL STAFF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
[CONT'D]

CONCLUSION

Council's Staff Consultative Committee plays an important role in facilitating communication between management and staff in relation to industrial relations matters. That being the case, it is essential that Council align membership of the Committees with current industry practice and the recommendations of the Department of Local Government.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council review the committee constitution of the Staff Consultative Committee and remove the requirement for an elected Councillor to be a member of the Consultative Committee.

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6. DETERMINATIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL - MAYOR'S AND COUNCILLORS' FEES

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal is constituted under the Local Government Act and makes determinations on an annual basis regarding the fees payable to mayors and councillors. The Tribunal groups like councils and determines a minimum and a maximum fee payable for each category of council. Individual councils may then determine the fees payable to the mayor and councillors within the minimum and maximum amounts determined by the Tribunal.

The Department of Local Government Circular indicates that Greater Hume Shire Council is included in Category 'Rural'. The minimum and maximum amounts currently payable to the Mayor and Councillors of councils under the 'Rural' category is set out below, effective 1 July 2009.

Category 'Rural' Councils

ANNUAL FEE PAID TO COUNCILLORS		ADDITIONAL FEE PAID TO MAYOR *	
<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
\$7,040	\$9,290	\$7,480	\$20,280

** This fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor as a Councillor.*

In the Greater Hume Shire Council 2009/2012 Management Plan, Councillors' fees were included at \$7,075 per annum and the Mayoral allowance was set as \$7,520 per annum.

CONCLUSION

Individual councils may determine the fees payable to the Mayor and Councillors within the minimum and maximum amounts as specified above. For the 2008/2009 year, Council adopted the minimum fees as determined by the Tribunal, being \$6,870 per annum Councillor fee and \$7,300 per annum Mayoral fee.

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ON WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009**

DETERMINATIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL - MAYOR'S AND COUNCILLORS' FEES [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The fee payable to Councillors be set at \$7,044 per annum effective 1 July 2009
2. In addition to the adopted Councillor fee above, the fee payable to the Mayor be set at \$7,488 per annum effective 1 July 2009.
3. Council's 2009/2010 Financial Budget be amended to reflect the adopted minimum Mayor and Councillor fees as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

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**7. HOLBROOK & DISTRICT WAR MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL COMMITTEE -
APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager - Suzanne Klemke

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of nominations received for the Holbrook & District War Memorial Swimming Pool Committee.

DISCUSSION

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 18 March 2009 it was resolved:

"That ... nominations be sought for the Holbrook Swimming Pool Committee".

As advertising for nominations closed on Friday 17 April 2009 resulted in only three nominations being received, additional advertising was undertaken to encourage additional interested persons. The second round of advertising closed on Friday 22 May with five nominations being received from:

Bruce Allworth
Jane Hassall
Philip Locke
Debbie Murdoch
Vicki Schuur

A copy of the nomination forms have been circulated separately with the Agenda for Councillors' information.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The Terms of Reference for the Holbrook & District War Memorial Swimming Pool Committee states that:

"At least four community representatives (members should be representative of the general community as well as specific user groups including the swimming club)".

As the number of nominations received is in excess of the required minimum representation it would be appropriate to appoint all nominees listed.

RECOMMENDATION

That the following nominees be appointed to the Holbrook & District War Memorial Swimming Pool Committee:

Bruce Allworth Jane Hassall Philip Locke	Debbie Murdoch Vicki Schuur
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**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
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8. LEASE – LOT 7001 DP 1051877 – RESERVE 89272 RESTING PLACE

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager - Suzanne Klemke

REASON FOR REPORT

Council is in receipt of correspondence from a shire resident seeking to enter into a lease for grazing Lot 7001 DP 1051877 (3.339ha). A map detailing the location of Lot 7001 DP 1051877 is attached as **ANNEXURE 9**.

DISCUSSION

A resident of the Shire has indicated that a lease arrangement between his father and the former Holbrook Shire Council was in existence and had been for a number of years. A search of Councils records has failed to locate a formal lease agreement and the alleged lessee was unable to produce documentation confirming such a lease was in existence. However, the alleged lessee has notified Council in writing that he wishes to transfer the lease to his son.

Greater Hume Shire is Reserves Trust Manager of the property in question being Reserve 89272 for the purpose of Resting Place gazetted 3 March 1995.

Approval has been sought from the Department of Lands who have confirmed they have no objections to Council leasing the land for the purposes of grazing.

Department of Lands have also advised that:

"The Council has two options giving permission. First Council can give permission to graze the area for up to 12 months without the need for a formal licence document being approved by this office.

The second option is to grant a licence for 1 to 3 years that will require Ministers consent to grant.

In this case Council maybe should consider giving approval to graze the area for 10 to 12 months. Then after that time, assess the matter. Council may be happy to just give permission again for 12 months or to granting a longer term formal licence."

CONCLUSION

As it appears no formal lease is in existence, it would seem appropriate that Council seek Expressions of Interest to lease Lot 7010 DP 1051877 for the purposes of grazing for a period of 12 months with the option to renew for a further 12 month term.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council seek Expressions of Interest for the lease of Lot 7001 DP 1051877 – Reserve 89272 (3.339ha) for the purpose of grazing for a period of 12 months with an option to renew for a further 12 month term and in accordance with Council's terms and conditions as outline in the Agreement.

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9. SOUTHERN SPORTS ACADEMY – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of correspondence received from the Southern Sports Academy seeking a financial contribution from Council.

DISCUSSION

Council has received correspondence from the Southern Sports Academy seeking a financial contribution of \$150 for each athlete from Greater Hume Shire attending the academy. At present, there are six athletes from Greater Hume at the academy, resulting in a potential contribution of \$900. A copy of the correspondence is included as **ANNEXURE 10**.

The contribution being requested is to the Southern Sports Academy to allow them to continue to develop their development programmes. The contribution does not go to the individual athletes.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The total contribution of \$900 could be funded from the 2008/2009 Donations allocation.

CONCLUSION

Council has made contributions to the Southern Sports Academy in the past and it seems an appropriate mechanism for Council to support elite young athletes from the Shire.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve a contribution of \$900 to the Southern Sports Academy to be funded from the 2008/2009 Donations allocation.

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10. PROVISION OF AGED CARE SERVICES

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To provide Council with an update in relation to Council's Expression of Interest for the management of 16 high care nursing home beds currently located at the Holbrook Hospital.

DISCUSSION

At the April 2009 meeting of Council it was resolved:

1. *That Council submit an Expression of Interest for the 16 Nursing Home beds at Holbrook.*
2. *A further report be submitted to Council following the notification of short listed respondents as a result of the Expression of Interest process.*

In accordance with the above resolution, an Expression of Interest was prepared and submitted to NSW Health by the closing date of 8 May 2009.

Attached as **ANNEXURE 11** is an extract from the NSW Health website confirming that Greater Hume Shire Council is one of 17 respondents to the EOI process.

As Council has previously been advised, it is expected that the shortlisting of respondents will take place in July 2009. Shortlisted respondents will then be invited to submit a detailed proposal, with proposals due towards the end of September 2009.

Given the tight timeframes associated with the preparation and submission of a detailed proposal, management have been proactive in maintaining momentum with this project. In that regard, management have completed a Terms of Reference document which has been distributed to prospective consultants to assist Council in undertaking a due diligence process in relation to the 16 nursing home bed licences at Holbrook, and possibly developing a detailed proposal as part of the NSW Health process.

As previously advised, the due diligence process may also present Council with an opportunity to undertake a wider review of the aged services provided by Greater Hume Shire Council, particularly the operation of the Howlong Hostel and the future development of the Jindera Aged Care precinct.

In that regard, the prospective consultants have been asked to present a submission to Council outlining the cost and timeframes associated with providing advice on the potential acquisition and operation of the 16 nursing home beds at Holbrook as well as providing advice to Council on the short and long term viability of Council's continued involvement in low care and/or high care residential aged care services at Howlong and elsewhere within the Shire.

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PROVISION OF AGED CARE SERVICES [CONT'D]

Councillors are also advised that a petition signed by approximately 150 residents of Holbrook and District has been presented to Council expressing the community's concerns in relation to the sale of the nursing home bed licences at Holbrook. A copy of the petition is included as **ANNEXURE 11**.

Clearly the optimum outcome would be for the 16 nursing home beds (known as The Harry Jarvis Wing) to remain part of the Holbrook Health Service and be operated by NSW Health through Greater Southern Area Health Service.

CONCLUSION

The sale of the 16 nursing home bed licences at Holbrook by NSW Health presents a number of challenges and concerns for Council and the Holbrook community. Council will need to undertake an extensive due diligence process in relation to the possible acquisition of the bed licences and in that regard management have sought submissions from prospective consultants to provide advice to Council on the potential acquisition and operation of the Holbrook nursing home beds as well as Council's involvement in the future provision of residential aged care services. In addition to the due diligence process, Council will also need to be mindful of the concerns of the Holbrook Community as expressed in the petition presented to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The petition from the Holbrook community included as **ANNEXURE 11** be received and noted.
2. Management's actions in completing and distributing a Terms of Reference document seeking submissions from prospective consultants to provide advice to Council in relation to the possible acquisition and operation of the 16 nursing home beds at Holbrook as well as Council's involvement in the future provision of residential aged care services be endorsed.

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ENGINEERING

1. STREET NAMING IN GREATER HUME SHIRE

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Councillors on proposals received for possible future street names.

DISCUSSION

Council previously requested staff to develop a list of names that could be used for future street names in Council's towns and villages.

A report was presented to Council at its Ordinary Meeting on Wednesday 18 March, 2009 and it was resolved that:

“That Council endorse further processes by staff in obtaining appropriate future street names in Council townships, and Councillors directly encourage the community to support the process in any way possible”.

Following this resolution an advertisement was placed in local newspapers and community newsletters and a letter forwarded to all 355 committees within the shire, for people to submit appropriate names that could be used as future street names.

A number of further submissions were received and suggestions have now been made for the towns and villages of Burrumbuttock, Culcairn, Gerogery, Henty, Holbrook, Jindera, Walla Walla and Woomargama. A detailed list is attached as **ANNEXURE 12**.

It is proposed that Council adopt these names for use as future street names and due to the absence of names provided for the remaining villages of Brocklesby, Gerogery West, Morven and Walbundrie it is considered appropriate that further avenues are explored to compile an appropriate list of names for all towns and villages and that any further suggestions received for Burrumbuttock, Culcairn, Gerogery, Henty, Holbrook, Jindera, Walla Walla and Woomargama be considered for addition to the current list.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Minimal implications on Council budget except for additional administration costs.

CONCLUSION

It is important that Council has a direct input into future names of new streets in Council townships, to ensure appropriate recognition of Councils heritage and local features.

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STREET NAMING IN GREATER HUME SHIRE [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. adopt the current list of names as attached as **ANNEXURE 12** and endorse further processes by staff in obtaining appropriate names for the towns and villages that have received little or no suggestions; and
2. that any further suggestions received for Burrumbuttock, Culcairn, Gerogery, Henty, Holbrook, Jindera, Walla Walla and Woomargama be considered for addition to the current list.

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2. NAMING OF ROAD IN BROADFOOT SUBDIVISION JINDERA

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To approve a name for the new road created in the Broadfoot Subdivision Jindera.

DISCUSSION

The naming of roads is the responsibility of Council under the Roads Act. Previously Council has adopted a list of names to be used for new roads that are to be created in towns and villages in the Shire. (A report to this meeting has expanded this list following public submissions). However, a list for Jindera was adopted at a previous Council meeting, but in this instance the developer requests that a name derived from their own name be used instead of the list of names adopted. (See **ANNEXURE 13**. They have proposed the street named BROAD WAY derived from their name Broadfoot.

It is to be noted that the name meets street naming guidelines of being clear and uncomplicated, and is not similar to other names in the township, however it is not on the adopted list.

The adopted list, and further report to this meeting expanding the list of names to be adopted, has come from the community with reasons why they should be used. The developer has a range of names to choose from, so is not limited to only one suggestion.

The concern is to adopt a name for a road which is not on the adopted list, will make the list irrelevant for what its purpose was created for in the first place.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil as the developer is required to install street signs as part of the development at his cost.

CONCLUSION

Although the name BROAD WAY meets the naming guidelines, it is not on the list of names adopted by Council, and if Council accepts a name not on the adopted list it sets a precedent for future issues of this nature, and makes the adopted list irrelevant.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council refuse the use of Broad Way as the new street name in the Broadfoot subdivision, and advise the developer the name of the new road must come from the list of proposed names as adopted by Council.

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3. RURAL ADDRESSING

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To brief Council on the responses received following the advertising of additional proposed road name changes, and readvertising of two road names as resolved at the Ordinary meeting of Council held on Wednesday 15 April, 2009 (Minute 1860), and to finalise the road naming and renaming process by approving the gazettal of the proposed changes.

DISCUSSION

As required by the Roads Act, a list of the proposed road naming changes was advertised in the Border Mail on Saturday 25 April and 2 May 2009 (see **ANNEXURE 14**) and certain emergency service and government organisations (as required by the Roads Act) were advised in writing of the proposed changes.

It is to be noted that Council did not advertise the proposal for naming of the part of the new service road from Burma Road to Bowna Creek.

From the advertising and correspondence sent, a total of 5 responses were received, copies of responses are also included at **ANNEXURE 14**.

The responses have been summarised as follows:

1. Department of Lands approving all proposed names.
2. Bruce Hill (Property "Halcyon Park ") stating that Wood Swallow should be written as one word not two as advertised
3. PL Strachan (Albury resident) objecting to the new service road from Yellow Creek to Burma Road being named Clancy Road
4. Gary Ryan (Property "Willurah Homestead") wishing to name the section of the new service road from Burma Road to Bowna Creek as Willurah Drive
5. Terry Wright (Property "Dundooga") objecting to the new service road from Yellow Creek to Burma Road being named Clancy Road

From the responses received the following advice is provided:

1. **Department of Lands** correspondence advises that all proposed names meet the Road Naming Guidelines, as required by the Department of Lands. **Advice Only No response necessary.**
2. **Mr Bruce Hill** landowner from road to be named is concerned that Wood Swallow should be one word as the proper spelling of the bird species is Woodswallow. The Road Naming Guidelines advise that names should be easy to spell, read and pronounce and it could be said that Woodswallow as one word could prove difficult to recognize. **Proceed with the naming of unnamed lane off Funk Road Jindera as Wood Swallow Lane.**

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RURAL ADDRESSING [CONT'D]

3. **Mrs PL Strachan** from Albury is concerned with the proposed name of Clancy Road and would prefer that the new service road from Yellow Creek to Burma Road be named Bells Road after the Bell family. Bells Road was renamed Olympic Highway when RTA changed the route of the highway and she believes that the Bell family should be remembered in some way. To name a new road with a previously well known road name will lead to confusion when locating properties as a significant portion of the community still refer to the Olympic Highway from TableTop to Gerogery as "Bells Road. **Reject the proposal to name the new service road Bells Road.**

4. **Mr Gary Ryan** landowner from road to be named believes that the new service road from Yellow Creek to Bowna Creek be split and that the western section from Burma Road to Bowna Creek which contains the entrance to the property "Willurah" be named Willurah Drive as it is an access road to the property only. The eastern section from Burma Road be named either Bowna Drive or Clancy Road as it services the Clancy property directly. As the new service Road has two distinct sections (Yellow Creek to Burma Road and Burma Road to Bowna Creek) naming of the road in two parts is suitable and logical. The use of the term "Drive" is not suitable for a rural environment. **Advertise the proposal to name the section of the new service road from Burma Road to Bowna Creek as Willurah Road.**

5. **Mr Terry Wright** Landowner from road to be named believes that the new service road from Yellow Creek to Bowna Creek be split and that the western section from Burma Road to the entrance to the property "Willurah" be named Willurah Drive as it is an access road to the property only. (See item 4. above) The eastern section from Knox Road to Yellow Creek be named Clancy Road as this section of road services the Clancy property and that the section from Knox Road to Burma Road be named Illa-Langi Road as this section of road services the property "Illa-Langi". As the road is a continuous road from Yellow Creek to Burma Road it is not logical to divide it into two sections, with two names. It is noted there is an access point onto the service road opposite Knox Road on the freeway however it does not bisect the service road as Burma Road does. The name Illa-Langi also does not meet Road Naming Guidelines as it is not easy to pronounce and contains a hyphen. Therefore it is appropriate to retain the proposed name of this section of the service road (from Yellow Creek to Burma Road) as Clancy Road. **Reject the proposal to name the section of the new service road from Yellow Creek to Burma Road as Illa-Langi Road and leave as Clancy Road.**

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Updating of existing road signage has been included in Council's proposed budget for 2009/10

CONCLUSION

Due to the minimal issues raised it is appropriate that Council proceed with the gazettal of the road name changes as detailed in **ANNEXURE 14** and advertise the proposal to name the new service road from Burma Road to Bowna Creek as Willurah Road.

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RURAL ADDRESSING [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That Council proceed with the gazettal of the road name changes as detailed in **ANNEXURE 14** and advertise the proposal to name the new service road from Burma Road to Bowna Creek as Willurah Road.

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4. WATER RESTRICTIONS

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Council on the current water situation.

DISCUSSION

Due to current ongoing “dry” conditions the Department of Water & Energy held a teleconference on 29 May 2009 with senior officers from Councils within the RAMROC area, to discuss town water supply restrictions.

The following is summary of what discussions were held:

DWE has been advising over the past few months that due to the low inflows in the Murray and Murrumbidgee Catchments that Councils will be required to go to Stage 4 Restrictions as of 1 July 2009.

Stage 4 restrictions state that no outside watering is permitted.

DWE however advised that Councils will be permitted to maintain important community assets, such as key sportsgrounds, park and street trees and school grounds. They see this as a critical aspect for maintaining the social fabric and well being of communities.

The DWE also advised that Councils would be permitted to purchase water allocations on the open market, in order to move to Stage 3A restrictions which allows for the limited watering of gardens, but not lawns by residents.

Discussion was also held on the disparity of restrictions on both sides of the Murray River, however were advised nothing could be done due to the differing systems of water purchasing that occurs in each state.

Council representatives then made the following points:

- *Councils have been extremely diligent in reducing water consumption across the board since the critical situation arose in 2007;*
- *There is very little difference in consumption totals for Stage 3A compared to Stage 4;*
- *Councils are opposed to having to acquire water allocations to move from Stage 4 to Stage 3A;*
- *Council water consumption sales income have deteriorated markedly in recent years, and to purchase additional water would be a significant financial impost;*
- *The problem of water use through domestic bores needs to be resolved to achieve uniformity and prevent local conflict;*
- *Enforcement is beyond the physical and financial resources of Councils especially Stage 4 restrictions which prohibit any external garden watering making it difficult to enforce.*

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WATER RESTRICTIONS [CONT'D]

It was agreed from the teleconference that Councils were of the view that water consumption constraint is certainly required because of the situation faced. Accordingly, Councils are prepared to move from the current levels of restrictions (generally Stage 2A in the Murray system and either Stage 1 or Stage 2 in the Murrumbidgee system) to Stage 3A, which allows very limited external watering of gardens, as well as maintenance of community assets, but without the need to acquire any additional water allocation.

It was agreed that a detailed analysis needs to be undertaken and presented to DWE, to measure actual consumption savings that have been achieved and to estimate the likely consumption comparison between Stage 4 and Stage 3A for all Councils compared with the amount of water that have been set aside for Towns Water Supplies Critical Human Needs.

Following the teleconference Council staff has prepared the required information and forwarded it to RAMROC so the submission could be made.

A copy of the information forwarded is attached in **ANNEXURE 15**. Also attached in **ANNEXURE 15** are Critical Water planning updates for both the Murray and Murrumbidgee Valleys.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The impost of restrictions on Council's Water Fund is of concern. As advised previously the reduced income from low water usage impacts significantly on the financial status of the fund. This is mainly caused by the extra cost of treatment required to maintain the quality of the water in the system, to the required levels, as flows decrease.

CONCLUSION

The water situation continues to be of concern, however as shown Councils including Greater Hume Shire have made considerable effort to save water previously, with the introduction and enforcement of harsh restrictions. However it is now considered appropriate to introduce Stage 3A Water Restrictions instead of Stage 4 water Restrictions on the 1 July 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the actions taken by staff regarding water restrictions, and support the introduction of Stage 3A Water Restrictions instead of Stage 4 Water Restrictions on 1 July 2009.

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5. BOWNA REST STOP

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To decide on the long term status of the Bowna Rest stop on section of Hume Highway that will be bypassed shortly.

DISCUSSION

As part of the duplication works on the Hume Highway, a section of the existing highway between Table Top and Mullengandra will be bypassed shortly. This section of the highway will be handed over to Council and become a local road with significantly reduced traffic.

Currently on this part of the highway a rest stop with facilities including toilet amenities, picnic tables, rubbish bins is in place at Bowna. Following completion of the duplication works, it is expected that a significant drop in the utilization of this rest stop will occur.

Due to the ongoing maintenance required of rest stop in its current configuration it is the opinion of this writer that the rest stop be decommissioned, and all facilities be removed by the RTA before handover of the road is finalised. It is proposed that signs be installed following the decommissioning indicating its closed status.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

No cost to Council if rest stop is decommissioned, however if rest stop is retained a significant ongoing maintenance cost will be incurred by Council.

CONCLUSION

All assets require ongoing maintenance. The consideration of these ongoing costs is important in determining the appropriateness of keeping these assets, alongside the value of the asset to the community. In this circumstance it does not seem appropriate to maintain the rest stop in its current format due to limited use it will have once this section of road is bypassed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council advise the RTA that Bowna Rest Stop be decommissioned and all facilities removed as part of the hand over of the old highway to Council.

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ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

1. **PROPOSED PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL LAND FOR EXPANSION OF JINDERA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE**

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council as to the likely sale date of land suitable for the expansion for the Jindera Industrial Estate.

DISCUSSION

Council resolved at the December 2007 meeting of Council to authorise the General Manager to act on Council behalf to acquire Lot 12 D 791220 at Jindera for the purpose of extending the Jindera Industrial Park.

This matter was again considered at the August 2008 meeting of Council whereby the resolution was amended slightly as follows:

“That the General Manager be authorised to act on Council’s behalf to:

1. acquire Lot 12 DP 791220 at Jindera for an amount up to no more than 10% greater than the November 2007 valuation (excluding GST)
2. engage a buyer’s agent to act on Council’s behalf.”

The sale has been delayed a number of times and most recently this has been due to the RTA completing consent conditions of DA 25-08/09.

Council has now been advised that advertising of the sale will commence in early July with the sale scheduled towards the end of July 2009.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The acquisition of the above land will be at considerable cost, however, only a part of the land would be required for the industrial estate and the balance could be disposed of to reduce Council’s exposure to risk. Reserve funds exist to facilitate the purchase.

CONCLUSION

As this information is of a confidential nature it is recommended that further discussion be referred to Closed Council in accordance with section 10A 2(c) of the Local Government Act 1993, - *information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.*

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PROPOSED PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL LAND FOR EXPANSION OF JINDERA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the proposed purchase of additional land for expansion of the Jindera Industrial Estate be referred to Closed Council in accordance with section 10A 2(c) of the Local Government Act 1993 - *information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.*

2. EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Council of action taken in relation to the implementation of recommendations relating to staffing matters from the External Organisational Review conducted by Employment Solutions.

DISCUSSION

A number of the recommendations from the External Organisational Review relate to staffing matters and referred to Closed Council in accordance with section 10 A 2(a) of the Local Government Act 1993.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

That the presentation of the timelines for recommendations 13, 19.2, 20, 24, 25 & 26 of Greater Hume Shire Council's External Organisational Review undertaken by Employment Solutions be referred to Closed Council (Committee of the Whole) for discussion, in accordance with the relevant section of the Local Government Act 1993 section 10a (2) (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

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PART B – FOR INFORMATION

GOVERNANCE

1. DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCULARS [G.320.3]

REASON FOR REPORT

To ensure Councillors are updated with changes to legislation or the strategic direction of Local Government in NSW.

DISCUSSION

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY with the agenda is a listing of DLG Circulars No 19 to 21/2009. Copies of DLG Circulars are available from the website www.dlg.nsw.gov.au or alternatively by contacting Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' Information.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW (LGSA) – WEEKLY CIRCULARS [G.330.1]

REASON FOR REPORT

To ensure Councillors are updated with changes to legislation or the strategic direction of Local Government in NSW.

DISCUSSION

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY is a listing of Table of Contents of LGSA Weekly Circulars Issues 19 to 23. Copies of LGSA Weekly Circulars are available from the website www.lgsa.org.au or alternatively by contacting Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' Information.

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3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT - APRIL–MAY 2009

The Community Development Reports for the period April-May and June 2009 are attached at **ANNEXURE 16**.

4. GENERAL MANAGER – ANNUAL LEAVE

Report prepared by General Manager - Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise of annual leave to be taken by the General Manager.

DISCUSSION

It is advised that under delegated authority the Mayor has approved leave for the General Manager from Monday 20 July 2009 to Monday 3 August 2009 returning to work on Tuesday 4 August 2009. During this period David Smith will act in the position of General Manager.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' Information.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM, LIBRARY COURT, HOLBROOK
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CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. CUSTOMER REQUEST MODULE

For Councillors' information, a Customer Request Module report is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY**.

2. STATEMENTS OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 31 MAY 2009. COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS AS AT 31 MAY 2009

Attached, at **ANNEXURE 17**, are statements of bank balances as at 31 May 2009 and the summary of investments as at 31 May 2009.

ENGINEERING

1. MAY REPORT OF WORKS

Grants Program

State Roads Maintenance:

Drainage and vegetation control works are in progress on Olympic Highway (MR78) and Tumbarumba Road (MR 284).

Culvert inspection and reporting has been completed.

An inspection has been carried out by the RTA to determine 2009/2010 program for maintenance works.

Regional Roads Block Grant:

Work on the Block Grant on MR 331 Culcairn to Walbundrie has been completed with the preparation for next years widening partially completed. MR331 east of Holbrook has been completed with all funds expended.

Culvert widening west of Holbrook is in progress.

Regional Roads resealing on Wagga Holbrook Road with new centre lines marked the full length of the road.

Local Roads

Sealed:

Work on Tunnel Road is in progress with the removal of some batters and lowering of pavement at Tin Mines intersection and the installation of new culverts.

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REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Reconstruction works on poor pavement at the Holbrook end of Mountain Creek Road at Holbrook have commenced.

Gravel:

The Following roads have been graded in the month of May:

Ashcrofts Road	Gum Swamp Road
Back Henty Road	Halford Road
Bahrs Road	Wattlevale Road
Balldale-Walbundrie Road	Jelbart Road
Benambra Road	Jobsons Road
Bobs Creek Road	Kiley Road
Bowlers Road	O'Keeffes Road
Boxwood Road	Luther Road
Ashley Lane	Mandaring Road
Burma Road	Molkentin Road
Campbells Road	Morebringer Road
Carrals Lane	Coach Road
Coppabella Road	Bendemeeer Lane
Ferndale Road	Nioka Road
Fieldermoll Road	Pioneer Drive
Four Mile Lane	Plunketts Road
Calool Lane	Quartz Hill Road
Taylor's Road	Sawyer Road
Top Springs Road	

Urban Streets

No reseals have been carried out in the month of May.

General

General maintenance of parks, gardens and public toilets has continued throughout the Shire.

2. NSW ROAD RECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Councillors on the release of the NSW Road Classification Review Report.

DISCUSSION

As known to Council a review of the NSW State and Regional road network has been ongoing for a number of years. The review has involved the assessment of what roads should be included or removed from this network.

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NSW ROAD RECLASSIFICATION REVIEW [CONT'D]

A review panel was formed and initial recommendations were made. Following the publishing of the initial recommendations 138 Councils and RTA Regions made submissions. The State Government has now released the final changes to the state and regional road network following consideration of submissions made.

For Council, the result from the review is a decrease in the length of road classified Regional Road of 24 km, due to the reclassification of MR 282 Wymah Rd (Road from Bowna to Wymah Ferry) from Regional Road to Local Road status (refer **ANNEXURE 18**).

Although significant, the change only represents a decrease of 8% of Council's 309km of Regional Road network in the shire (ie 309km to 285km).

It is to be noted that in the initial list of reclassifications was the reclassification of MR547 (Jindera – Walla Walla) from Regional to Local road status, but this was rejected in the final report.

Council's submission to reclassify the Henty Walla Road from Local to Regional Road was also rejected.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The reclassification of the MR282 will reduce the amount of funding from the RTA as part of our Regional Road Block Grant, however this will be offset partially by an increase in FAG (Federal Assistance Grant) funding from the Federal Government.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' Information.

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2009

Attached, at **ANNEXURE 19** is the schedule of development applications processed for the month of May 2009.

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2. RANGER'S REPORT – MAY 2009

Companion Animals

No. of Complaints Received	26 including 6 barking dog, 10 roaming dogs, 4 Dogs acting aggressive.		
No. of Dog attacks:	1	Location: Culcairn	1 dog involved in an incident where a pedestrian received a minor bite on the leg.
Comments:	The owner of the dog was issued a nuisance dog order and a penalty infringement notice.		
		Dogs	Cats
In Council's Facility at beginning of month		1	
Captured & Returned to Owners		8	
Captured & Impounded		8	4
Released from Pound to Owners		4	
Surrendered by Owners			
Rehomed		1	2
Euthanized		3	2
Remaining in Council's Facility at end of month		1	

Feral Cats

No. of Complaints:	6
No. Feral Cats caught:	18

Livestock

	Cattle	Sheep	Horses	Goats	Other
No. of Reports of Stock on Roads	15	6	1	1	
Instances - Returned to owners	15	6	1	1	
Impounded					
Vehicle accidents involving stock	1 Hume Hwy (truck) 1 Culcairn Rd (Car)		1 Olympic Hwy (Car)		

Other Livestock, wildlife complaints

1 dead cow removed from common dam and disposed of.
An injured kangaroo was euthanized.

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RANGER'S REPORT – MAY 2009 [CONT'D]

Abandoned Vehicles

1 abandoned vehicle remains impounded.

1 abandoned vehicle collected by NSWFB for training exercise

Other Vehicle Incidents

2 vehicles advertised for sale on road reserve removed by owners.

Hazard Reduction

A hazard reduction burn was conducted at Geddes Bush Walk in Holbrook by the Central Rural Fire Brigade and the NSW fire Brigade.

Green waste hazard reduction burns were conducted at all the Landfill and Transfer Station sites within the Shire by Rural Fire Brigades and Council employees during May.

Pollution and Environmental Incidents: 5 incidents of rubbish dumped on the side of roadways.	
Inspection conducted: owners not identified	The 5 lots of waste varied from beer bottles, tyres, carpet and other household waste. No owners were identified, but some persons of interest were spoken to. The waste was removed by Council employees.
Pollution: Noise	Truck noise owner spoken in relation to the issue.

Trees and Firewood Permits

Two inspections conducted on persons collecting firewood, both had appropriate permit.

Training/Seminar

Both Rangers attended Drum Muster training for recertification in the handling and receiving of used chemical drums.

Also both Rangers attended the May meeting of the Wild Dog Action Group. The Health Livestock and Pest Authority Rangers, National Parks Rangers, State Forests, the Department of Primary Industry and the Department of Environment and Climate Change were in attendance as well as other landholder groups to discuss better solutions to the problems of wild dog attacks and domestic dog attacks on livestock.

Other issues covered included the migration of dogs from other areas to this area and ways to address this problem. Surveys of dogs with tracking devices were discussed, this showed how far and how often the dogs travelled. Also DNA testing of the dogs is being conducted to identify Breeds e.g. (Dingo or Domestic Feral dog X) plus where they travel to and from e.g. (dogs crossing borders).

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3. SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER'S REPORT – MAY 2009

The rabbit eradication program for the Holbrook Airpark was carried out with Pindone poisoning completed by the Hume Livestock Health and Pest Authority and all the warrens on Council land filled in and destroyed. Follow up work on the warrens has also been completed. At the Airpark there are signs of rabbits living around or under the existing buildings. The owners have been asked by the Hume LHPA Ranger to carry out control work on these areas to prevent reinfestation occurring.

Other areas in the Shire where rabbit control has been carried out are as follows: Holbrook Cemetery, Walla Walla Cemetery and Gerogery.

Vegetation control on roadsides has commenced with MR 78 completed. Vegetation spraying around guard rails has commenced and will continue over the coming months.

Coolatai Grass has been controlled on all roads in the Shire by either removing the seed head or by spraying. In some cases both control options have been instigated.

Khaki Weed although it is not declared has been sprayed on roadsides as well as in the town of Culcairn near the railway station.

DrumMuster inspector training was held in Culcairn prior to the collection being carried out. This was a refresher course for the employees and was completed in 3 hours. The collection for Greater Hume Shire Council was held on 28-29 May 2009. The collection numbers were down on past years due mainly to the late start to the cropping season: Holbrook 555; Culcairn 1,436; Henty 568; Walbundrie 196; and Burrumbuttock 396. The next collection will be held in October.

Property inspections carried out in May were for African Boxthorn, Horehound, Illyrian Thistle, Khaki Weed and some follow up work for Prairie Ground Cherry.

Council, Holbrook Landcare Group and the Murray Catchment Management Authority have put together a grant application to remove Willow Trees (*Salix fragilis* and *Salix tortuosa*) from the creek area at Woomargama. This grant is available through the Environmental Trust Fund. If successful, Council will manage the project which will be completed by volunteers and contractors. This project will compliment the Willow work already completed upstream from Woomargama to the Ferndale Road.

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4. WASTE UPDATE

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor - Bradley Peach

(a) Albury Regional Waste Minimisation Strategy

The Working Group's consultants, Kenmore-DMP, have finalised the waste survey form and all member Councils have had the survey distributed randomly throughout the area. Greater Hume had two hundred and fifty (250) surveys mailed out.

Results of the survey should be known late July, early August.

(b) Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) and National Greenhouse Emissions Reporting Scheme (NGERS)

The Federal Government has announced a number of significant amendments to the final draft of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme legislation relevant to the waste industry.

The two key points are the exclusion of the liability for legacy emissions, although they will still count towards threshold determination, and clarification of the threshold triggers applying to neighbouring landfills within the yet-to-be-determined proximity distance.

The relevant section of the latest advisory from the Federal Department of Climate Change states:

LEGACY EMISSIONS

The Government has decided that emissions liabilities for landfill waste facilities will only apply to emissions from new waste deposited after Scheme commencement. Emissions from waste deposited prior to Scheme commencement, otherwise known as "legacy" emissions, will be excluded from Scheme liabilities.

Liabilities will be incurred by operators of landfill facilities with emissions above 25,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂-e) per annum, and those facilities above 10,000 tonnes CO₂-e per annum that are in close proximity to a site triggering the 25,000 tonne CO₂-e threshold and accepting similar classifications of waste. The distance determining the 10,000 tonne threshold will be outlined in regulations following industry consultation and fixed for five years to provide certainty for industry.

COVERAGE OF THE WASTE SECTOR

Emissions from legacy waste will not incur a liability under the Scheme, although legacy emissions will continue to count towards a landfill facility's threshold in order to ensure broad coverage of new waste emissions.

Delaying the start of the scheme gives the sector greater time to prepare for their involvement in the scheme, including establishing emissions measurement approaches and installing abatement technologies.

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WASTE UPDDATE [CONT'D]

THE PRESCRIBED DISTANCE RULE

The prescribed distance rule will be implemented to avoid waste displacement from covered to uncovered sites. The lower threshold of 10,000 tonnes of CO₂-e per annum now only applies to sites within a certain distance of a site triggering the 25,000 tonne CO₂-e threshold and accepting similar classification of waste, rather than any open landfill facility as outlined in the White Paper. This will lower the overall number of landfill facilities and reduce impacts on local governments.

The prescribed distance will be examined as part of the general review of the Scheme that must be completed before the end of 30 June 2014.

CONSULTATION WITH THE WASTE INDUSTRY

During the consultation period on the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme draft legislation, many submissions and representations were received from local governments and landfill operators which made it clear that there was a deep concern about the equity of imposing a liability on emissions from previously deposited waste, or so called "legacy emissions".

Emissions from legacy waste have been excluded from the Scheme as stakeholders have identified they would incur a significant financial liability without any capacity to claw back costs from those that had deposited the waste. Stakeholders indicated that they were being held liable for emissions from past activities that they had no control over, whereas other sectors were not. By absolving operators from all legacy emissions prior to Scheme commencement, operators will be able to charge those responsible today for tomorrow's pollution. Removing legacy emissions from the coverage of the Scheme represents fairer treatment of the waste sector.

There had also been concern expressed about the application of the previous prescribed distance rule as spelt out in the White Paper, and the undue administrative burden this may place on smaller landfills sites.

SUPPORT FOR THE WASTE SECTOR

Entities in all industries, including waste, will be eligible to apply to access the Climate Change Action Fund to implement new low emissions technologies.

The expanded Renewable Energy Target will provide strong incentives for landfills to capture and generate energy from waste, including waste deposited prior to the commencement of the Scheme.

The landfill sector has seen significant changes over recent years with a strong move to consolidate landfill sites, recover resources through recycling and in many cases to capture and use methane.

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WASTE UPDDATE [CONT'D]

The Minister for Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, as responsible Minister for oversight of the National Waste Policy, will consider the need to develop complementary measures for legacy waste emissions as part of that Policy and in conjunction with the Minister for Climate Change and Water.

It is felt that the amendments still fail to address the confusion surrounding the reporting thresholds for landfills within the proximity distance, particularly in terms of which landfill will be considered the trigger for a neighbouring landfill and subjected to the lower 10,000 threshold.

(c) DECC Waste Diversion Returns

DECC Quarterly Returns have been completed for REROC Waste Forum and the Murray Waste Management Group.

Funding for all voluntary waste groups is contingent on DECC receiving data indicating waste is being diverted from member Council landfills in accordance with the NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy.

The next Return should show a large increase in the collection of waste oils from across the shire.

(d) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection

Councillors are reminded that the REROC Waste Group is providing a Household Hazardous Waste Collection at the Holbrook Depot on Wednesday 17 June between 10am and 4pm.

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PART C – COMMITTEE REPORTS

Attached, as **ANNEXURE 20**, are minutes/notes of the following Committee Meeting:

- Minutes of Culcairn Community & Business Forum Meeting held on 25 May 2009
- Minutes of Greater Hume Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety/Risk Management Committee Meeting held on 25 May 2009
- Minutes of Henty Community Development Committee Meetings held on 2 June 2009

RECOMMENDATION

That Part C of the Agenda be received and noted.