



PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY 2 AUGUST 2005

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parkes Shire Council held at the Trundle Services and Citizens Club, Forbes Street, Trundle, commencing at 1:30 pm for the purpose of considering the items included on the Agenda.

GENERAL MANAGER: Alan McCormack

Ordinary Meeting

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Trundle Services and Citizens Club, Forbes Street, Trundle on 2 August 2005 at 1.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillor R I Wilson, (in the Chair)
Councillor G Pratt
Councillor J H Magill
Councillor B J Laing

Councillor K J Keith
Councillor Y Hutton
Councillor K McGrath

IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager - A McCormack
Director Corporate Service - B Matthews
Director Planning & Environment - S Campbell
Director Operations - S Barry
Director Infrastructure - K Boyd
Administration Manager - L Finn
Economic Development Manager – M Greenwood
Tourism Coordinator – M Kronk
Minutes Secretary - T Prior

MEETING COMMENCEMENT

The Meeting commenced at 1.30pm.

1 PRAYER

The Mayor asked the General Manager to open proceedings with a prayer.

2 APOLOGIES

05 - 629 Resolution

That Councillor Barbara Newton be granted leave of absence (REASON: Absent from Parkes).

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

05 - 630 Resolution

That Councillor Patrick Byrne be granted leave of absence (REASON: Absent from Parkes).

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

05 - 631 Resolution

That Councillor Wayne Scott be granted leave of absence (REASON: Absent from Parkes).

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

05 - 632 Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parkes Shire Council held on 19 July 2005, copies of which have been forwarded to Councillors, be confirmed.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Yvonne Hutton declared an interest in Item 8.2 (REASON Executive member of organisation mentioned in report).

The Ordinary Council meeting was closed to the public at 1.35 pm.

The Mayor asked the meeting whether it agreed that the items listed by the General Manager appeared to be items which should be discussed in closed session for the reasons given.

The General Manager advised that there were no written representations from the public on the proposed closure of the Council Meeting.

05 - 633 Resolution

That the meeting be closed for consideration of the listed items as they involve: information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business, personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) and commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

16 CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ITEMS

16.1 (DI) Purchase of Groundwater

Prepared By: Director of Infrastructure

Executive Summary

Prior to the 2004/05 water year Council may recall purchasing (on a temporary basis) 1,050 ML of groundwater from Mr Colin Dawes, who neighbours Council's Lachlan borefield. Mr Dawes has offered the water again on similar terms.

Recommendation

1. That an offer be made to purchase 500ML of groundwater from the vicinity of Council's Lachlan bores.

05 - 634 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

16.2 (GM) Occupational Health and Safety Meeting Minutes - 8 June 2005

Prepared By: Human Resource Manager

Executive Summary

The minutes of the Occupational Health and Safety Meeting of 8 June 2005 are attached.

Recommendation

1. That the recommendations of the Occupational Health and Safety Meeting Minutes be received and noted.

05 - 635 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

17 QUESTIONS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY - CONFIDENTIAL

Nil.

The Ordinary Council meeting was then opened to the public at 2.05 pm

05 - 636 Resolution

That the meeting be opened to the public for the Ordinary meeting of Council

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

5 MAYORAL MINUTES

5.1 Mayoral Minute - Interstate Travel

Executive Summary

The Mayor and General Manager travelled to Melbourne on 29 July 2005 for discussions with a potential investor in Parkes Shire.

Recommendation

1. That the information be noted.

05 - 637 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

05 - 638 Mayoral Minute - Death of Mr Tom Morrissey

Mr Tom Morrissey, Council's former Shire Engineer and Director of Works and Planning, passed away on 29 July 2005. He was 65 years of age.

Mr Morissey commenced work at Orange City Council in 1956. He moved to Goobang Shire Council in 1962. Upon the amalgamation of Goobang Shire and Parkes Municipal Councils in 1981, Mr Morrissey was appointed Shire Engineer of Parkes Council. He remained there until retirement in 1999.

Recommendation

That Council note with sadness the passing of Mr Morrissey and join in a minute's silence.

05 - 639 Resolution

1. That the recommendation be adopted.
2. That Council make a donation of \$100.00 (in lieu of flowers) to the Parkes Branch of the Cancer Patients Assistance Society.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

6 NOTICES OF MOTION/RESCISSION

Nil.

7 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nil.

8 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 (ICR) Trundle War Memorial Hall Committee

Executive Summary

The Trundle Community Consultative Committee has endorsed the use of \$5,000.00 from the Trundle Town Improvement (TI) vote to facilitate repairs to the Trundle Hall has asked Council to endorse the request.

Recommendation

1. That Council endorse the use of funds from the Trundle TI Vote in the amount of \$5,000.00 to facilitate the carrying out of necessary repairs to the Trundle Memorial Hall.

05 - 640 Resolution

1. That Council engage consultants to undertake independent assessment of the wall.
 2. That subject to the findings of the consultant's report Council endorse the use of funds from the Trundle TI Vote in the amount of \$5,000.00 to facilitate the carrying out of necessary repairs to the Trundle Memorial Hall.
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3. That it be suggested to the Trundle War Memorial Committee that it make an application under the Parkes Shire Heritage Assistance Grant Scheme in relation to the repairs and improvements.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

Councillor Yvonne Hutton left the meeting temporarily at 2.16 pm.

8.2 (ICR) Parkes and District Historical Society - Occupancy of Museum

Executive Summary

The Society (on 30 July 2005) has written to Council seeking a 'reasonable extension of time to enable further negotiations towards a fair agreement'.

The Society suggests that the Liaison Committee meet to decide a timetable to discuss clauses in the agreement.

A L Jackson and Co have also written to Council asking Council to withdraw the 'ultimatum'.

Recommendation

1. That the Society be requested to agree to the general terms of the licence by 15 August 2005.
2. That the Liaison Committee (Councillors Keith and Laing representing Council and Councillor Hutton and Ms Jenny Kingham representing the Society) be asked to consider what items are in dispute, but having regard to Council's formal decision to offer a licence to occupy.
3. That the question of occupancy of the Museum be discussed at the 16 August 2005 Council meeting.

05 - 641 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

Councillor Yvonne Hutton rejoined the meeting at 2.18 pm.

9 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

9.1 (GM) Trundle Doctor's Residence

Executive Summary

An update on the Trundle Doctor's residence situation.

Recommendation

1. That the information be noted.

05 - 642 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

9.2 (GM) Trundle/Tullamore Sewerage

Executive Summary

Council has been offered a 60% State Government subsidy for the Trundle and Tullamore sewerage schemes.

Recommendation

1. That the information be noted.

05 - 643 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

9.3 (GM) Policy Renewal Program

Executive Summary

Council staff are currently reviewing policies and procedures for integration with the recently adopted Code of Conduct and in satisfaction of the Department of Local Government Governance Health Check.

Recommendation

1. That the following policies be endorsed and adopted:
 - Managing Conflicts of Interest Policy
 - Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayor and Councillors Policy
 - Gifts and Benefits Policy
 - Councillor Access to Information and their Interaction with Staff Policy
 - Protected Disclosures Act 1994 - Internal Reporting Policy
 - Voluntary Rebates to Pensioners for Rates and Charges Policy
 - Community Infrastructure Projects Policy

05 - 644 Resolution

1. That the following policies be endorsed and adopted:
 - Managing Conflicts of Interest Policy
 - Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayor and Councillors Policy
 - Gifts and Benefits Policy
 - Councillor Access to Information and their Interaction with Staff Policy
 - Protected Disclosures Act 1994 - Internal Reporting Policy
 - Voluntary Rebates to Pensioners for Rates and Charges Policy
 - Community Infrastructure Projects Policy
2. That the General Manager investigate Councillors' access rights to office areas under the various policies.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

10 DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES' REPORT

10.1 (DCS) Trundle Bush Tucker Day - Request for Financial Assistance

Executive Summary

The Trundle Bush Tucker Day Committee has asked for financial assistance of up to \$3,000.00 to assist with repairs to their stage and \$700.00 associated with insurance costs for this year's event.

Recommendation

1. That discussions be held with the Bush Tucker Day Committee in relation to an advance being made from the Trundle Town Improvement Fund.
2. That the Trundle Consultative Committee be asked for a comment in relation to the use of Town Improvement funds for the purpose.
3. That the request for porta loos be agreed to on a similar basis to previous years.

05 - 645 Resolution

1. That discussions be held with the Bush Tucker Day Committee in relation to an advance being made from the Trundle Town Improvement Fund.
2. That the Trundle Consultative Committee be asked for a comment in relation to the use of Town Improvement funds for the purpose.
3. That the request for porta loos be agreed to on a similar basis to previous years.
4. That sources of additional funds (outside of the Trundle TI fund) be investigated with a view to providing minor assistance to the Bush Tucker Day Committee to assist with the staging of this year's event.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

10.2 (DCS) Tourism - Home Hosting Program

Executive Summary

A need exists for increased tourist accommodation capacity in Parkes during peak event times. The Parkes Visitor Information Centre requests Council approval to commence a Home Hosting Program, to be pilot tested for the 2006 Parkes Elvis Festival. The Program has Tourism Board support.

Recommendation

1. That the Tourism Manager be granted approval to undertake a pilot test of the Home Hosting Program during the 2006 Parkes Elvis Festival.
2. That the \$4,500 allocated in the Long Term Plan to set up an accommodation booking program be brought forward to current financial year.

05 - 646 Resolution

1. That the Tourism Manager be granted approval to undertake a pilot test of the Home Hosting Program during the 2006 Parkes Elvis Festival.
2. That the \$4,500 allocated in the Long Term Plan to set up an accommodation booking program be brought forward to current financial year.
3. That the matter of insurance protection for residents involved in the proposed scheme be investigated in greater depth.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

10.3 (DCS) Tourism - Tourism Board Representation.doc

Executive Summary

Fred Baker has tendered his resignation to the Parkes Shire Tourism Board. The Tourism Board recommends that Council advertise to fill the vacancy which will exist for remainder of the two-year term ending September 2006.

Recommendation

1. That Council advertise to fill the vacancy, placing advertisements in The Bogan Times and the Parkes Champion Post.
2. That the Tourism Manager write a letter of thanks on behalf of Council to Fred Baker, thanking him for his years of service on the Tourism Board.

05 - 647 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

11 DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT'S REPORT

Nil.

12 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT

12.1 (DO) K&G / Drainage - Hutton Street, Trundle

Executive Summary

There have been ongoing maintenance and access problems associated with a steel drainage line in Hutton Street near Forbes Street. The pipe has deteriorated over time and parts have collapsed and impeded stormwater flow from the area in Forbes Street near the Trundle Services Club. The 50 metres of pipe is exposed and has rusted to such a degree that further collapses may occur.

It is intended to remove the old pipe and replace with kerb and gutter, and reshape the road and footpath. The alternative is to replace with a concrete drainage line which will have limited capacity and continue to create access problems for residents adjacent. Both options are estimated to cost \$12,000.

Recommendation

1. That the steel drainage line in Hutton Street Trundle be replaced with kerb and gutter funded from the Roads, Kerb and Guttering, and Footpaths (LTP) allocation in the Management Plan.

05 - 648 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

12.2 (DO) Appointment of Local Emergency Management Officer

Executive Summary

The Director of Operations, Steve Barry, is currently the designated Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO) for Parkes Shire, as well as being the Chairman of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC). With the appointment of Greg Godde as the Facility and Emergency Management Officer, it is intended to also appoint Greg as the LEMO. The Director of Operations would continue as Chairman of the LEMC. The Deputy LEMO will continue to be the Works Engineer, Ray Graham.

Recommendation

1. That the Facility and Emergency Management Officer, Greg Godde, be appointed as Local Emergency Management Officer for Parkes Shire, and that the Director of Operations, Steve Barry continue as Chairman of the Local Emergency Management Committee.

05 - 649 Resolution

1. That the Facility and Emergency Management Officer, Greg Godde, be appointed as Local Emergency Management Officer for Parkes Shire, and that the Director of Operations, Steve Barry continue as Chairman of the Local Emergency Management Committee.
2. That Council formally acknowledge and congratulate the Director of Operations for the manner in which he carried out the duties of Local Emergency Management Officer whilst in the position.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

12.3 (DO) NRMA Better Roads Panel - Central West and Western Plains

Executive Summary

The Director of Operations attended the NRMA Better Roads Panel - Central West and Western Plains, at Orange on Tuesday 26 July 2005. The Panel contained representatives from a wide cross section of the region, including the wine industry, primary industries, road transport, chambers of commerce, local government and the general community. The purpose of the Panel was to consider a range of concerns raised on road issues and advise on priorities for research to be carried out under NRMA's Better Roads programme.

The outcome of the Panel discussions was to nominate the Great Western Highway and Mitchell Highway (linking Lithgow to Dubbo) as the priority roads for the research program to be undertaken by NRMA to identify the shortcomings and how they can be improved.

The results of the research will hopefully be released in October.

Recommendation

1. That the information on outcomes of the NRMA Better Roads Panel - Central West and Western Plains, be noted.

05 - 650 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

12.4 (DO) Insurance of Bush Fire Vehicles

Executive Summary

Council wrote to the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW in December 2004 seeking their assistance in clarifying the insurance issues concerning bush fire vehicles. A response has been received. Copies of the correspondence are attached.

It is particularly noted that the RFS/LG Liaison Committee considered that a common insurance coverage under one authority would be a "good step forward" but that the "RFS has declined to be the authority".

Some clarification of insurance was received from the RFS Regional Manager which has supported information provided to Council at the 1 March 2005 meeting in relation to private vehicle coverage. That advice is as follows:

"I think everyone is clear in terms of Councils responsibilities for their vehicles so I will confine the answer to that of private vehicles.

Where a Brigade member is acting in good faith, in driving their own vehicle which is unregistered causes damage to other property such another vehicle, the insurance provisions of the Treasury Managed cover the damage to the third party's property.

Should a Brigade member's own property be damaged whilst operating as a volunteer, then their property is covered through Workcover who is responsible for administering the Workers Compensation (Bush Fire, Emergency and Rescue Services) Act."

This advice is yet to be confirmed from RFS Head Office and appears to be at odds with the information provided to volunteers on insurance protection.

It is considered that endorsement of the Regional Manager's comments should continue to be sought from the Rural Fire Service Head Office.

Recommendation

1. That the information from the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW on discussion with the Rural Fire Service on insurance matters be noted.
2. That a letter be written to the Commissioner requesting endorsement of the RFS Regional Manager's comments relating to insurance coverage of privately owned vehicles used in fighting a bush fire.

05 - 651 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

12.5 (DO) BushFire Management Committee - Declaration of Sec 44 Fires

Executive Summary

Council considered a report at the 19 April 2005 meeting concerning the Bushfire Management Committee and Council's lack of involvement in seeking the declaration of Sec 44 fires under the Rural Fires Act 1997. It was resolved to write to the Commissioner seeking to be included in the declaration process. A reply has been received from the Commissioner. The correspondence is attached to this report, as well as documentation referred to by Commissioner Koperberg.

Notwithstanding that the information supporting Commissioner Koperberg's assertion that the Bushfire Management Committee was made aware of the changes is flawed, the Commissioner advised that Councils would not be included in the process.

Under the Rural Fires Act 1997, the Commissioner is not required to consult with Councils in considering whether a fire should be declared.

It appears that Councils have no power in how or at what level a fire is combated. Council's sole role is to take on the insurance and financial risks for fire fighting operations.

Recommendation

1. That the information be noted.

05 - 652 Resolution

1. That the information be noted.
2. That Council make further representations to the Minister for Emergency Services and the Rural Fire Services Commissioner stating in the strongest terms the need for Council input in the decision making process in declaring a Section 44 fire.
3. That the Shires Association be requested to commence an investigation of the role of Local Government in the operation of the Rural Fire Service.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

12.6 (DO) Funding of Section 44 Fires

Executive Summary

Council had expressed concern to the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service over costs incurred by Council during the operations of a Section 44 fire. At present costs associated with the fire are processed through Council's accounts and then reimbursement sought from the RFS.

A response was pre-empted in the Commissioner's letter included in the previous report on "Bushfire Management Committee - Declaration of Sec 44 Fires". The letter detailing a proposed trial was subsequently received from the Deputy Commissioner Mark Crossweller, and is attached to this report.

The trial involves the option to of handing over the bulk of the logistics/ordering function to the State Operations Logistic Officer. This would greatly reduce the problems previously experienced by Council in trying to track expenditures. Council would need to follow up and process documentation, seek authorisation from the Incident Controller after the event, and then submit the claim for reimbursement which was invariably questioned.

The use of RFS logistics would streamline the process greatly with funds directly managed by the RFS.

Recommendation

1. That the information on the intention to trial new financial arrangements for Sec 44 fires be noted.

05 - 653 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

12.7 (DO) Waratah Rural Fire Brigade Tanker

Executive Summary

A report was considered by Council at the 21 June 2005 meeting concerning a letter from the Waratah Bushfire Brigade requesting that Council assist them to retain an existing loan vehicle until a permanent replacement vehicle is obtained. Council resolved that the Rural Fire Service be requested to provide a diesel tanker as the loan vehicle until a permanent replacement is purchased. The Rural Fire Service were also requested to accelerate the replacement program for six (6) vehicles so that all petrol vehicles have been replaced prior to the 2005/06 bushfire season.

The reply from the Commissioner advises that the loan tanker Waratah Brigade had is allocated to another district and a replacement will be provided that is in safe working order. The Commissioner has also stated that instructions had been given to ensure the permanent replacement is provided as soon as possible. The letter from the Commissioner is attached.

A copy of the reply has been forwarded to the Waratah Brigade.

Recommendation

1. That the information on the replacement Waratah Brigade tanker be noted.

05 - 654 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

13 DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE'S REPORT

13.1 (DI) Local Government Partnerships with Catchment Management Authorities (CMA)

Executive Summary

On 27 July 2005 Councillor Magill and the Director of Infrastructure represented Council at the inaugural Local Government and Lachlan Catchment Management Authority Forum, held in Forbes. The Forum was aimed to develop a Local Government reference group to interface Local Government in the Lachlan Catchment with the Lachlan Catchment Management Authority, and will progress with the development of terms of reference for that group.

Parkes Shire is bisected by the Lachlan and Macquarie catchments and as a consequence has been invited to participate in both the Central West and Lachlan Catchment Management Authority forums. At present it would appear that each group will be holding four (4) meetings per year, thus there will be eight (8) meeting commitments per year for the Councillor and staff representative.

In the formative stages of the CMA development it is considered important to attend regular meetings to ensure the Shire constituents and the Council are represented. Accordingly, alternate Councillor and staff delegates would be an advantage.

Recommendation

1. That Council participate where possible in the Lachlan and Macquarie Catchment Management Local Government Forums.

2. That Councillor Magill and Councillor Keith are the nominated delegates.

05 - 655 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

13.2 (DI) Augmentation of the Forbes-Tottenham Water Supply Scheme

Executive Summary

The Forbes to Tottenham water supply system has in the past been subjected to routine annual water restrictions over summer as a consequence of inadequate supply capability. In 1991 the Public Works Department analysed the scheme and a number of options were identified to address the capacity problems.

An option was selected and a suite of capital works identified. Parkes Council has since completed all identified works in Parkes Shire, however some works remain uncompleted in Tottenham to allow the system to achieve the benefit of the capital works already completed. It is considered important that Council pursue the completion of these works.

As an interim measure, a pump station has been created at Bogan Gate and the pumps at Forbes have been upgraded. These works resulted in the Parkes Shire village's enjoying several summers with an unrestricted water supply, albeit a tenuous supply situation in peak periods in communities that are highly water conscious.

Recommendation

1. That Council reconfirm support for the option described below and excerpt from the Public Works Department report No. 413, March 1991, which includes,
 - A 60 ML terminal storage dam at Tottenham, utilising the existing "Leg-O-Mutton" Dam (complete).
 - A Water Treatment Plant at Tottenham (complete).
 - Top-up the terminal storage at Tottenham during winter from the Forbes to Tottenham pipeline (outstanding).
 - For up to 100 days during the peak summer period Tottenham would draw all its water from the "Leg-O-Mutton" dam (outstanding).
 - Provision of a 3.5 ML storage reservoir at Trundle (to sustain a 4000 L/t/d demand criteria or 0.8 ML reservoir to sustain a 3500 L/t/d demand criteria), (3.5ML reservoir complete).
2. That Council continue to liaise with Lachlan Shire for the completion of outstanding works identified above.

05 - 656 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

13.3 (DI) Establishing a Transport Working Group

Executive Summary

The Ministry of Transport recently held a Transport forum in Parkes, which involved various transport providers, including Taxi and Bus operators, various Government Departments associated with transport, and Council. The forum organisers advocated the creation of a Transport Working Group and have since written to Council seeking the establishment of the group as a Council section 355 Committee.

The stated benefit of the Section 355 Committee run by Council is that it would provide Councils assistance through administrative support as well as an ongoing meeting room for the group.

Recommendation

1. That Council Support the Ministry of Transport initiative to establish a Transport Working Group.
2. That Council agree to participate in the Transport Working Group.
3. That Council not agree to be the lead agency in the operation of a Transport Working Group
4. That Council not agree to form a section 355 committee for the purpose of establishing a Transport Working Group.

05 - 657 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

13.4 (DI) Land Acquisition by Council - 62-64 Currajong Street, Parkes

Executive Summary

Pursuant to the 5 July 2005 resolution of Council the property at 62-64 Currajong Street, Parkes was procured at the Richardson and Wrench public auction held on 28 July 2005.

Recommendation

1. That on settlement the land be classified as operational land.
2. That the seal of Council be applied to documentation as required to facilitate the purchase.

05 - 658 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

14 CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Nil.

15 QUESTIONS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY

15.1 Removal of Fire Damaged Trees - Peak Hill Road, Parkes

Councillor Magill advises that he has had a request from adjoining landholders for the removal of dead and damaged trees from the areas burnt out by the Alectown fires. These areas include the Peak Hill Road plus some Shire roads.

The Director of Operations advises that it is his understanding that all of the trees considered dangerous have been removed. The RTA would not be likely to approve further removal on the Newell Highway but the concern could be passed on to them. Council will be clearing some trees on Telescope Road as part of the next stage of the reconstruction.

Recommendation

That the information supplied by the Director of Operations be noted.

05 - 659 Resolution

1. That the information supplied by the Director of Operations be noted.
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2. That the concerns of the residents be conveyed to the RTA for comment.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

15.2 Bogan Gate Tip

Councillor Keith has been approached by a property owner neighbouring the Bogan Gate Tip who would like to discuss various options to improve the functionality of the tip with the Director Planning and Environment (or his nominee) and a Councillor.

05 - 660 Resolution

1. That the Director Planning and Environment arrange for the requested meeting to take place to discuss the matters raised by the neighbouring property owner.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

At this stage of the meeting and with the leave of Council the Mayor invited Ms Jillian Comber, Heritage Advisor, to make a presentation on the Heritage Advisory Service for the Parkes Shire for the past financial year.

QUESTIONS FROM GALLERY

Mrs Delia Crowley congratulated Council on the positive manner in which it is dealing with the Trundle War Memorial Hall repairs. Mrs Crowley also drew Council's attention to the untidy state of residential properties on the northern and southern town approaches to Trundle and asked if Council had powers to clean up the blocks.

The Director Planning and Environment advised that Council does have the powers but generally resolves such matter by negotiation.

Mr Roy Grellman addressed the meeting in relation to the proposed repairs to the wall of the Trundle War Memorial Hall. He advised that the wall was not tied to the toilet block and could be removed without interfering with the toilet block structure.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 3.56 pm.