

**MINUTES OF THE BARADINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETING
ROUND 1 2024/25 HELD IN THE BARADINE MEMORIAL HALL
ON TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT: Cr Kathryn Rindfleish (Mayor), Cr Jason Newton (Deputy Mayor), Cr Zoe Holcombe, Cr Naomi Taylor, Nicole Benson (Director Technical Services, DTS), Leeanne Ryan (Director Environment and Development Services, DEDS), Ngaire Stevens (Acting Director Corporate and Community Services, A/DCCS), Amanda Wherrett (PA Director Corporate and Community Services, Minutes), Nicole Devenish (Community Services Connections Officer, CSCO), Ted Hayman, Dot Skinner, Ray Skinner, Liz Cutts, Peter Wilkie, Gisela Evans, Will King, My Tien Nguyen, Suzanne Fuller, and Troy Carey.

APOLOGIES: Cr Dale Hogden, Cr Debra Bell, Cr Kodi Brady, Cr Ray Lewis, and Cr Denis Todd.

INTRODUCTION

Mayor Kathryn Rindfleish welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the councillors and Council staff in attendance.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 2024

Accepted as a true and accurate record.

BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

1. Request for Baradine Pool to have free entry. (Will King)

Will King mentioned that Baradine has resident families unable to pay for entry to the pool, and the pool is one of few activities available for recreation in Baradine.

DTS advised that the proposed Shire pool fee charges was advertised for public submission for feedback, followed by a report to Council for consideration at the upcoming November Ordinary Council meeting. To revisit the fees and charges, this process would have to be repeated.

Liz Cutts enquired if Baradine residents can make an application to the External Budget Submissions that Baradine pool entry be free.

DTS advised that Baradine residents are able to submit an application to External Budget Submissions.

2. Mowing Council owned footpaths by the public (Dot Skinner)

Dot Skinner enquired as to who would be liable for an incident caused by her, if she was to be mowing the Council-owned land in front of her property, and she was to cause injury to a passerby.

DTS advised that it would depend whether the injured passerby chose to lodge a claim against someone else, or Council, for who would be liable.

In addition, DTS advised that Council do not generally mow residential footpaths, and that Council are currently undertaking a service level review to look at potential over servicing, or under servicing, of Council owned areas.

3. Does Council plan to have kerbside collection in the near future. (Liz Cutts)

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DEDS advised that no dates are currently planned, however, kerbside collection is an item Council are looking into for the future.

4. Update on the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) project and identified hazards in Wellington Street. (Liz Cutts)

Liz Cutts enquired about the PAMP project which took place in 2015 to identify hazards in Baradine, some of which have not been addressed. Liz enquired if Council has made plans to fix these hazards.

DTS advised Council will implement the hazard repairs as funding becomes available. In addition, DTS advised to respond with what budget Council has for footpath repair in Baradine.

ACTION: DTS to respond to Liz Cutts regarding what budget Council has for footpath repair in Baradine.

5. What is the best way to make Baradine pool entry free of charge. (Liz Cutts)

This item was discussed previously in the meeting.

6. Who would pay for a Development Application (DA) for a bird sculpture project in the median strip of Wellington Street. (Liz Cutts)

Liz Cutts mentioned that she is applying for a grant to install a bird sculpture project within the median strip in Baradine. Liz enquired whether Council would pay for a DA for this project.

DEDS advised that Council pays for a DA if a project is on Council land. DEDS advised Liz to contact Council's Planning Department soon to enquire about DA requirements.

7. Request that Council apply for the Pilot Activated Lights (PAL) grant for Baradine Aerodrome lights upgrade. (Liz Cutts)

Liz Cutts mentioned that members of Baradine Aerodrome report that the landing runway lights still work, however they are very old. Liz mentioned that the landing runway lights are essential for the Royal Flying Doctors to land.

ACTION: Liz Cutts to send Council through quotes for the costs to upgrade the Baradine Aerodrome lights.

~~**8. Renovate Lion's Park Playground with a child safety fence. (Ella Prouse)**~~

~~This item was withdrawn by written request from Ella Prouse.~~

9. Reinstate fully subsidised entry to the Baradine pool. (Tuesday Fitheach)

Tuesday Fitheach was not in attendance at the meeting.

COUNCIL UPDATES AND INFORMATION

10. Roads Restoration Program.

DTS provided an update on the roads and the Natural Disaster Recovery program. Key points were:

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- \$10,582,454 has been approved for restoration and works are being carried out with 86% funds spent.
- Natural Disaster restorations deadlines for completion of grant funding are: 30 March 2025 for the November 2021 event AGRN 927; and 30 June 2025 for the September 2022 event. AGRN 1034.
- \$21,001,486 worth of claims have been submitted for AGRN 1034. Council and TfNSW are reviewing the claims, and TfNSW has asked for additional information. Additional plant (trucks) have been hired, Council staff are working additional hours and/or up to six (6) days per week to meet the works deadline.
- Works are currently underway: Wongoni Road; Mancers Road; Box Ridge Road; Prugger North of Oxley (Goolhi and surrounds) such as Reddens Road and Yaminbah Road projected to be finished by January 2025.
- Baradine - Coonamble Road has received some Heavy Patching plus some edge work. Next, followed by work on the road from Bardeine towards Coonabarabran in 2025.
- Work planned for Indians Lane with reconstruction of last 900m FD; Heads Road too wet previously; Bugaldie-Goorianawa Road reseals FD.
- Johns Crossing – WSC obtaining an L3 inspection to submit to TfNSW who are assessing the submission seeking \$1.5M to reinstate the former causeway.
- Maganns Crossing – design for 7 box culverts to be publicly exhibited in next few days. \$550,000 from the LRCIP4 has funded this project.

11. External Budget Submissions.

A/DCCS advised that External Budget Submissions are currently open for the financial year 2025/26 and forms are available on Council website under the Have Your Say tab. The submissions close at 4.30 pm on Friday 6 December 2024.

12. Australia Day 2025.

A/DCCS advised that nominations for Australia Day 2025 Awards opened on Monday 28 October 2024, and will close at 4.30 pm on 25 November 2024. Forms are available on Council's website under the Have Your Say tab, at Council reception in Coonabarabran and Coolah, and available at this meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

13. Baradine Swimming Club request for pool fee reduction (MyTien Nguyen)

MyTien Nguyen enquired if the Baradine Swimming Club members could receive a reduction in pool entry fees, as the costs of paying the Swim Central fees and pool entry fees becomes too expensive for some local families.

Mayor advised to take this request on notice.

ACTION: Council to investigate whether Council could qualify as an organisation to be able to receive Service NSW Active Kids Vouchers as contribution payment for pool season tickets.

14. Concern regarding two tobacconist businesses that have set up in local township. (Liz Cutts)

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Liz Cutts expressed concerns about two tobacconist businesses recently established in Coonabarabran. Liz mentioned that one shop sells children's toys and vape products, which is considered inappropriate by some community members.

DEDS advised that it is not Council's department to assess what these businesses are selling; however, Council could contact the local Member of Parliament on behalf of the community and express their concerns.

ACTION: DEDS to contact the Local Member Parliament, Roy Butler, regarding the concerns local community members have with two tobacconist shops that opened in Coonabarabran.

15. Costs required to maintain six Warrumbungle Shire pools (Cr Jason Newton)

Cr Jason Newton mentioned that the costs required to maintain six Shire pools must be allocated from the Council budget, and to potentially provide free pool entry to all Shire pools is an added cost against that budget. A discussion followed regarding where to source revenue from within the budget to cover the costs of free entry to all Shire pools.

DTS advised that Council offers a 4-week season pass, which is more cost effective for some families, and enables attendance at the pools when a lifeguard is not present.

Gisela Evans mentioned that Coonamble Shire Council lease their pool to a private party, and enquired if Council could look to leasing their pools out to a private party.

DTS advised that Council has a resolution to investigate leasing out, or external management, of Council pools. No action to date.

16. Pedestrian crossing at Baradine Central School (Troy Carey)

Troy Carey mentioned the pedestrian crossing in front of the Baradine Central School has no crossing signs, and that cars park over the crossing restricting safe access for children. Troy enquired as to whether pedestrian crossing islands and flags could be installed.

Troy Carey also mentioned that the pedestrian crossing opposite the IGA on Wellington Street has no crossing sign, or pole, and needs to be replaced.

ACTION: DTS to investigate the pedestrian crossing signs out the front of Baradine Central School contact the Baradine Central School Principal regarding the matter.

ACTION: DTS to investigate the pedestrian crossing sign opposite the IGA on Wellington Street for maintenance.

Mayor Kathryn Rindfleish thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed.

There being no further business, meeting was closed 6:09 pm.