

**MINUTES OF THE DUNEDOO COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETING
ROUND 1 2024/25 HELD IN THE DUNEDOO JUBILEE HALL ON
MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT: Cr Kathryn Rindfleish (Mayor), Cr Dale Hogden, Cr Denis Todd, Cr Zoe Holcombe, Cr Naomi Taylor, Leeanne Ryan (Director Environment and Development Services, DEDES), Nicole Benson (Director Technical Services, DTS), Ngaire Stevens (Acting Director Corporate and Community Services, A/ DCCS), Amanda Wherrett (PA to Director Corporate and Community Services, PADCCS, Minutes), Nicole Devenish (Community Services Connections Officer, CSCO), Warren Bull, Cathy Louwen, Cathy Bowman, Anne Bowman, Emma Bowman, David Bowman, John Horner, and Jacqui Yeo.

APOLOGIES: Cr Kodi Brady, Cr Debra Bell, Cr Jason Newton (Deputy Mayor), and Sue Stoddart.

INTRODUCTION

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024

Accepted as a true and accurate record.

BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Cathy Louwen

1. Processing timeframe for Development Applications.

Cathy Louwen mentioned she has experienced lengthy delays awaiting responses from Council regarding two Development Applications she has submitted. Cathy enquired why Council's communications were slow in relation to these Development Applications.

DEDS advised Council have not had a Town Planner for 2 years, and Council have recruited for the position 8 times, causing delays with Development Applications.

ACTION: Cathy Louwen to provide DEDES with details of the Development Applications that requires a response from Council.

ACTION: DEDES to investigate and follow up the Development Applications Cathy Louwen is referring to.

COUNCIL UPDATES AND INFORMATION

2. Roads Restoration Program.

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

- \$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

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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.

2.1 A community member mentioned that the bridge approaches to the two bridges on the Golden Highway leading south require maintenance.

ACTION: DTS to investigate with TfNSW if this work has been scheduled.

Community member asked why the patching is not completed on the whole road at the one time.

DTS advised Council road patching schedule follows funding when it becomes available and schedules work accordingly.

3. 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.

4. 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

5. Dunedoo pool fees (Mr Louwen)

Mr Louwen mentioned community concerns about the pool entry fee being \$4.70 being too high for the families in Dunedoo to afford. Mr Louwen mentioned that the pool is the only recreational place to go, except a small skate park, and suggested that Shire residents could pay more in rates to cover fee entry to all Shire pools.

DTS advised that Council adopted the Operational Plan 2024-2025 with all fees and charges included. Council advertised for public submission for feedback, followed by a report to Council for consideration at the upcoming November Ordinary Council meeting.

6. Commendation for Council for road works (Cathy Bowman)

Cathy Bowman commended Council for the great job on the road works along Bullindah Road.

7. Commendation for Council (Cathy Bowman)

Cathy commended Council staff member David Smith and his team for the good work with maintenance and upkeep to Dunedoo Park, they keep it looking good and the toilets were fixed quickly.

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8. Dunedoo playground fencing project (Cathy Bowman)

Cathy Bowman enquired when the Dunedoo park playground fencing will be completed.

DTS advised that due to lack of resources and a Project Manager, the playground fencing has been delayed. Funding for the playground fencing is part of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 4, which is due to be completed in June 2025. Once works are scheduled Council will engage with the Development Group.

9. Gardens at the Dunedoo park (Cathy Bowman)

Cathy Bowman mentioned that the gardens and some trees at Dunedoo park look dead, and enquired if there is irrigation to help green up the park.

ACTION: DTS to investigate the Dunedoo park gardens and trees and assess the watering arrangements for the park.

10. Dunedoo toilets paper supply (Cathy Bowman)

Cathy Bowman enquired about the funding for toilet paper supply to the Dunedoo toilets and if Dunedoo could acquire more resources for these amenities.

DTS advised that Council assess the service levels of each town's toilets and fund them accordingly.

11. Update on the TRRRC site (Emma Bowman)

Emma Bowman enquired about an update on the TRRRC site.

DEDS advised that the General Manager is overseeing this project, and is currently on leave.

12. REZ updates (Emma Bowman)

Emma Bowman enquired about an update on the REZ developments.

DEDS advised that the progress update is similar to the April Community Consultation meeting updates, with key progress being:

- Transmission Line was approved 26 June 2024, with a modified application approved on the 14 October 2024. The department of Planning deemed the modification to be minor.
- Birriwa Solar Farm was approved 16 August 2024.
- Spicer's Creek Wind Farm was approved 31 October 2024.
- Liverpool Range Wind Farm had a modified application approved on 2 November 2024.

13. Sound quality of the Council meeting in Coolah Council Chambers (Emma Bowman)

Emma Bowman mentioned that the online recording sound quality of the Council Meeting in the Coolah Council Chambers is not very good, and that it is difficult to hear what is being said.

A/DCCS advised to take this on notice.

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14. Replacement of the town bike racks (Cathy Bowman)

Cathy Bowman enquired about replacing the bike racks that were removed in Dunedoo main street. Cathy mentioned that Dunedoo has a large visitation of cyclists and the bike racks are important feature of the main street.

ACTION: DTS to follow up the bike rack project and investigate when the bike racks can be replaced in the main street of Dunedoo.

15. Rates notice enquiry (Jacqui Yeo)

Jacqui Yeo enquired about a rates notice she received and was overcharged. Jacqui was advised to pay the incorrect amount and then seek an adjustment on the subsequent rates notice, however, the following rates notice did not display the adjustment.

ACTION: Jacqui to provide her contact information, and details of the two rate notices to A/DCCS.

ACTION: A/DCCS to investigate Jacqui Yeo's rates notice issue, and contact her with a response.

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

There being no further business, meeting was closed 6.01 pm.