Hawkesbury City Council

ordinary meeting business paper

date of meeting: 30 May 2006
location: council chambers
time: 5:00 p.m.

mission statement

"To create opportunities for a variety of work and lifestyle choices in a healthy, natural environment"

How Council Operates

Hawkesbury City Council supports and encourages the involvement and participation of local residents in issues that affect the City.

The 12 Councillors who represent Hawkesbury City Council are elected at Local Government elections held every four years. Voting at these elections is compulsory for residents who are aged 18 years and over and who reside permanently in the City.

Ordinary Meetings of Council are held on the second Tuesday of each month, except January, and the last Tuesday of each month, except December. The meetings start at 5:00pm with a break from 7:00pm to 7:30pm and are scheduled to conclude by 11:00pm. These meetings are open to the public.

When a Special Meeting of Council is held it will usually start at 7:00pm. These meetings are also open to the public.

Meeting Procedure

The Mayor is Chairperson of the meeting.

The business paper contains the agenda and information on the issues to be dealt with at the meeting. Matters before the Council will be dealt with by an exception process. This involves Councillors advising the General Manager at least two hours before the meeting of those matters they wish to discuss. A list will then be prepared of all matters to be discussed and this will be publicly displayed in the Chambers. At the appropriate stage of the meeting, the Chairperson will move for all those matters not listed for discussion to be adopted. The meeting then will proceed to deal with each item listed for discussion and decision.

Public Participation

Members of the public can request to speak about a matter raised in the business paper for the Council meeting. You must register to speak prior to 3:00pm on the day of the meeting by contacting Council. You will need to complete an application form and lodge it with the General Manager by this time, where possible. The application form is available on the Council's website, from reception, at the meeting, by contacting the Manager Corporate Services and Governance on 4560 4426 or by email at lmifsud@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

The Mayor will invite interested persons to address the Council when the matter is being considered. Speakers have a maximum of five minutes to present their views. If there are a large number of responses in a matter, they may be asked to organise for three representatives to address the Council.

A Point of Interest

Voting on matters for consideration is operated electronically. Councillors have in front of them both a "Yes" and a "No" button with which they cast their vote. The results of the vote are displayed on the electronic voting board above the Minute Clerk. This was an innovation in Australian Local Government pioneered by Hawkesbury City Council.

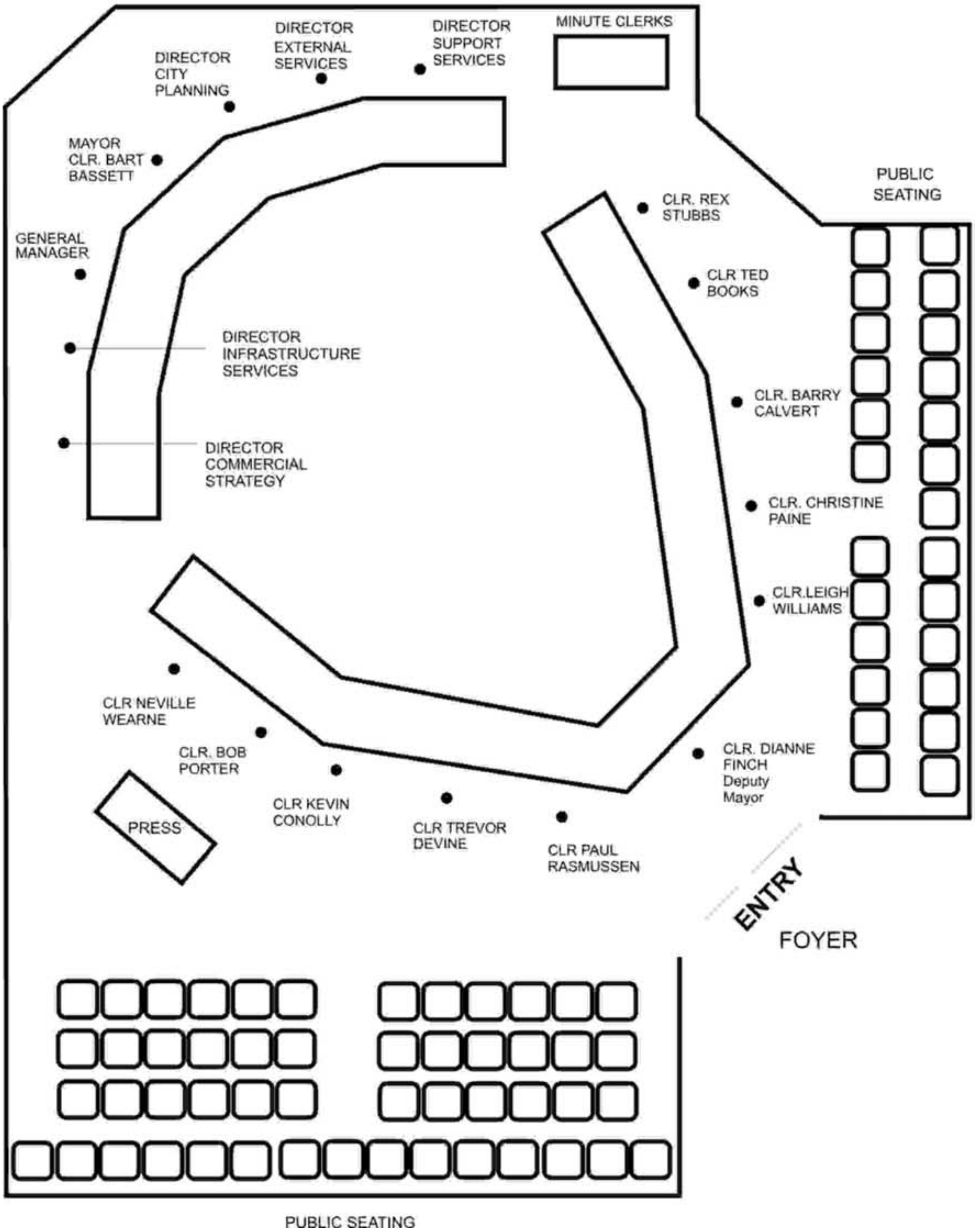
Website

Business Papers can be viewed on Council's website from noon on the Friday before each meeting. The website address is www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

Further Information

A guide to Council Meetings is available on the Council's website. If you require further information about meetings of Council, please contact the Manager, Corporate Services and Governance on, telephone 02 4560 4426.

council chambers



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GENERAL MANAGER

Item: 102 **GM - Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils Ltd (WSROC) "10,000 Friends of Greater Sydney (79351, 74251)**

REPORT:

The Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils Ltd (WSROC) Executive Management Committee at its meeting on 16 March, 2006 considered a request from the Warren Centre regarding membership to "10,000 Friends of Greater Sydney".

The "10,000 Friends" is an advocacy group being supported by the Warren Centre which has grown out of the Centre's *Towards the City of Cities project.*

The Executive Management Committee of WSROC noted that whilst there are many areas common between *Towards the City of Cities/*10,000 Friends and WSROC, there were still areas of potentially significant policy differences, particularly in relation to the differing priorities of Future*West* and *Towards the City of Cities.* However, it was also recognised that the 10,000 Friends may have a broader agenda than *Towards the City of Cities* and could potentially represent a significant lobbying force supporting better planning outcomes for Sydney.

In noting the membership would cost $5,500.00, it was agreed that any involvement in 10,000 Friends would also need to be on the basis that WSROC did not necessarily endorse (and in some cases oppose) the recommendations of *Towards the City of Cities.*

WSROC seeks Council's views on this matter and whether Council would consider making a contribution towards a joint membership fee of $5,500.00. On the basis of all member Councils contributing, the cost would be $500.00, increasing if less Councils agree.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

> *"Investigating and planning the City's future in consultation with our community, and co-ordinating human and financial resources to achieve this future."*

Funding

Provision has not been included specifically in the budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council not participate in a joint membership of $5,500.00 for "10,000 Friends of Greater Sydney".

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

CITY PLANNING

Item: 103 CP - Proposed Amendments to the Hawkesbury DCP - (95498, 107)

Previous Item: Item 3, Ordinary (31 January 2006)

REPORT:

At its meeting of 31 January 2006, Council adopted the following resolution:

> *'That Council examine ways in which the protection of native vegetation in Council's area can be encouraged and the possible provision of financial incentives by Council in this regard.'*

The management of native vegetation as far as Council is concerned, is largely dealt with by Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan 1989 and the Hawkesbury Development Control Plan. It should also be noted that the Threatened Species Conservation Act also gives certain powers to the Department of Natural Resources and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Currently in the Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan 1989, the clearing of native vegetation is a defined use, the definition is:

> *'clearing native vegetation means the removal of vegetation considered indigenous, native or belonging naturally to Australia, for any purpose other than bushfire hazard reduction.'*

The LEP in Clause 9 (being the Land Use Matrix), indicates that clearing native vegetation can take place without consent in the residential, commercial and industrial zones. It is prohibited under 7(a) Wetland Zone and 7(e) Consolidated Lands Zone; it is exempt development in 9(b) (that is proposed Road Zone), and requires development consent in all other zones. Essentially, this means that in all rural zones and open space zones, development consent is required for the clearing of native vegetation.

There is no mention in the objectives of each of the zones regarding native vegetation, except in the 7(d) and 7(d)1 zones, which are both scenic protection zones where it is only referred to in conjunction with the management of the external colours of new buildings. It is expressed explicitly in the objectives of the 7(e) zone to 'preserve areas of significant vegetation stands'.

Although it is land use that requires consent in many zones, this consent must be tested against the objectives of the zone and for instance in rural 1(b) zone, the primary objective is to 'primarily provide for agricultural uses and animal establishments'. This therefore means that if you are submitting an application to clear native vegetation and your purpose of this clearing is to provide for agriculture, then you are clearly meeting the objectives of this zone.

Clause 36 of the LEP requires the following:

> *'a person shall not, on land within zone 7(a), 7(d), 7(d)1, felled trees, fill or otherwise alter the surface level of the land without the consent of Council.'*

Notwithstanding what is said by the land use matrix within these zones, development consent is required for the clearing of trees for any purpose. For instance, if you were to argue that the felling of trees was minor ancillary use for agriculture in a 7(d) zone, you would still be required to obtain consent under this clause.

Clause 41AA which relates to certain land in Grose Wold, actually defines particular classes of vegetation (e.g. Cumberland Plain Woodland), and has specific requirements leading to the preservation of this particular ecological community. It also provides incentives to allow for different styles of subdivisions to take place, if the preservation of these trees are a part of the application. Clause 42A dealing with lands at ‘The Islands’ at Kurrajong, also has specific requirements regarding the preservation of vegetation.

Clause 50 which relates to certain land at Terrace Road, Freemans Reach also requires consideration to be given to the Cumberland Plain Woodland on the site, before Council gives consent to any development on that land.

Clause 8 of the model provisions adopted by the Hawkesbury LEP, allows Council to create a tree preservation order, which Council has done.

Proposed Changes

Amendments to the Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan include new objectives for new zones, and in particular, the proposed mixed agricultural zone has an objective to preserve native vegetation and encourage development to occur in land already cleared of its native vegetation, with the primary objective being to encourage sustainable agriculture. The new environmental protection, agriculture protection and mixed agriculture zones have new objectives to provide similar objectives for the preservation of native vegetation. The mixed agriculture zone also has objectives for the protection of streams and wetlands. These new objectives will shift slightly towards the importance of vegetation management in applications for activities that require consent associated with agriculture, or if agriculture requires consent, then vegetation management becomes an integral part of the application. The proposed DCP and intensive agriculture also looks at the possibility of having appropriate buffer zones, and to retain vegetation as part of the Farm Management Plan.

Possible Alternative Solutions

The Grose Wold subdivision rules and the lot averaging rules reward people who have preserved something that the community considers to be of importance, whereas the other normal subdivision rules, penalises those people who have retained vegetation as vegetation management and protection often prevents subdivision being carried out, particularly if the land contains endangered ecological communities or threatened species. Those individuals who have for a long time through their management practice preserved this vegetation often end up suffering when it comes to subdivision applications.

It would be possible of course to extend the Grose Wold rules and the lot averaging rules to a wider number of zones. To extend the environment constraint area mapping as used in Grose Wold would require significant vegetation mapping, which is currently being undertaken but will not be completed until next year. The lot averaging development could be extended to other zones, but may have some opposition. It could also be extended to include other things that the community considers worthy of protection. It is not clear yet as to how the new proposed LEP template will affect these rules, but at this stage it appears that Council can use its own subdivision size and pattern rules inside the template framework, but these need to be finalised.

Council could create a concept called ‘planning credits’ and give planning credits to people with land that has certain characteristics. Certain areas set aside for subdivision can only be subdivided when these planning credits have been purchased. This is an alternate system to the transfer of development rights, as it is quite clear that the State Government considers the term ‘development rights’ does not exist in the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act and should be avoided. Whereas, another term that means the same thing, may be acceptable to the State Government.

Council could investigate the use of ‘green offsets’ currently being investigated by the Department of Environment and Conservation, which has the effect that the land containing vegetation can be sold to land owners who wish to carry out development on other land that requires the destruction of vegetation. The 'green offset' land is then preserved to maintain the vegetation cover. There are numerous parcels of land in the area that adjoin National Parks that could be used for this purpose.

Summary

In summary therefore, it seems that successful vegetation management requires the conservation of vegetation to become a worthwhile and valuable experience rather than an imposition on individual landowners. There would appear to be several planning techniques that may be available, some of which are currently in use in the Hawkesbury LEP and some which could be in use to facilitate this program. It would seem therefore, that the vehicle to progress this would be, in terms of vegetation cover, the mapping work that is currently being undertaken, and in terms of the subdivision rules to explore whether the template can in fact accommodate the concept of increased use of lot averaging or the creation of the concept of ‘planning credits’. These issues are being presented to Council’s Strategic Planning Committee in order to make some strategic directions to Council regarding the management of the subdivision of rural lands and vegetation.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

> *"Objective: Establish processes and develop flexible plans that will enable the City to respond to change."*
>
> *“Identify and implement appropriate actions to protect and rehabilitate the natural environment.”*

Funding

There is no impact to funding.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this report be referred to Council’s Strategic Planning Advisory Committee for their consideration and investigation, particularly of the ‘planning credits’ model to further the management of native vegetation in the Local Government area.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

EXTERNAL SERVICES

Item: 104 **ES - Review of Community and Cultural Grants Programme - (79342, 95494)**

Previous Item: 180, Ordinary (14 June 2005)

REPORT:

This report has been prepared to seek Council's approval to place on public exhibition a Discussion Paper which reviews the status and operation of Council's Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program (CCGDP). The report also seeks Council's approval to delegate to the Community Planning Advisory Committee responsible for considering the findings of the review and any public submissions which may be received, and to use this information to re-evaluate Council's current grants policy and guidelines in order to develop a revised (draft) Community Grants Policy and Guidelines for Council's consideration.

Background

In May 2005, Council requested a report into the proposed allocation of Section 356 expenditure as part of its deliberations into the 2005/2006 Financial Estimates.

A report was subsequently considered by Council at its Ordinary Meeting of 14 June 2005. The Report identified a number of issues in relation to the Community Donations Program. In considering these matters Council resolved:

> *"That a review of the Community Donations Program and subject policies be undertaken and a further report be submitted to Council by 30 August 2005."*

The requested review commenced in June 2005. The scope of the review was broadened to include the Cultural Grants Program.

The review was then deferred to enable the findings and outcomes of Council's Cultural Planning Process to be considered (as the findings of the Cultural Plan were likely to influence the future operation of the Cultural Grants Program). The Cultural Plan was reported to Council in March 2006 and placed on public exhibition until the 28 April 2006.

Current Status

The review of the Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program has now been completed and is being reported to Council. A Discussion Paper has been prepared outlining the salient issues emerging from the review.

The Discussion Paper incorporates a dissection of community and cultural grant program expenditures between January 2002 and November 2005. It shows that 10 of the 251 recipients of grants and donations (4% of recipients) accounted for 53% of all funds distributed under the Program.

It notes that the stated purpose of the CCGDP is to provide non-recurrent grants and donations to local community groups (with no access to state or federal funding) for new programs, activities or events. Over time, the CCGDP has evolved into a fixed program of financial assistance which supports the annual operations of the same pool of community groups. This pattern of distribution has progressively reduced the pool of funds which can be made available to other organisations and for other purposes. In practice, there is little opportunity for Council to financially support new community groups or to respond to emerging community needs.

Despite the significant investment of resources by Council in implementing consultative planning processes, the Discussion Paper notes that patterns of expenditure within the CCGDP have largely remained unchanged. There is currently no mechanism within the CCGD Program for realigning funding allocations to better reflect the changing community priorities identified in these Plans.

The Discussion Paper documents those factors impacting on the administrative integrity, equity and financial sustainability of the existing program. It identifies 15 broad principles for Council's consideration which, if adopted, would assist Council to deliver an accountable, equitable and financially sustainable grants program. These 15 principles are summarised below.

AIM	improving administrative integrity	improving equity	improving financial sustainability
PRINCIPLES	**A1 -** consolidate (community + cultural) financial assistance programs within one Grants Program administered by a single Branch. **A2** - revise current policies to deliver a transparent, equitable, and application based grants program while still retaining Council's discretionary capability **A3 -** establish common administrative requirements for all financial assistance programs **A4** - develop guidelines for categories of financial assistance based on the following functions; • *3 yr Event Sponsorship Agreements* • *Access to Council Facilities* • *Program + Activity Seeding Grants* • *Rapid Response Donations* **A5** - implement an accountability regime so that outcomes of financial assistance grants can be evaluated and reported to Council and the community	**E1 -** move away from the provision of annual operating subsidies towards the funding of specific projects with agreed outcomes. **E2** - realign the objectives and aims of grant programs to reflect current community priorities identified in Council plans **E3 -** recognise that priority for funding should be given to local community groups with limited access to other sources of funding **E4** - broaden some categories of assistance to provide all eligible organisations with the same opportunity to apply for financial assistance **E5** - eliminate the inequitable aspects of some current categories of financial assistance.	**FS1** - discontinue open-ended and long term funding commitments. **FS2** - encourage the long term sustainability of projects and events by limiting the duration of grants to a maximum of three years (with provision for further extensions in special circumstances). **FS3** - review programs where there is currently no incentive on applicants to contain costs, reinstate dollar-for-dollar funding arrangements, and limit programs where Council provides a 100% operational subsidy **FS4** – re-establish a requirement for grant applicants to demonstrate some capacity to secure other sources of revenue or sponsorship in order to reduce the level of subsidy provided by Council over the life of a grant or agreement. **FS5** - specify a maximum level of grant (within each category of financial assistance).

Proposed Principles for a review of the Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program

Proposed Review Process.

The Discussion Paper notes that any proposal to alter the way funds are currently allocated will inevitably impact on those incumbent organisations who now receive financial assistance through the Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program.

The Discussion Paper advocates the following process for facilitating a review and re-design of the Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program:

- release of the Discussion Paper for public comment and submissions (with copies to be distributed to current recipients of grants and donations);
- a feedback sheet to be developed to seek community views regarding the 15 principles identified above;
- delegating to the Community Planning Advisory Committee the task of considering community submissions and feedback and using this information to review Council's current grants policy and guidelines to develop a revised (draft) Community Grants Policy and Guidelines for Council's consideration.

Time Frame

It is anticipated that a (draft) Community Grants Policy and Guidelines could be reported to Council by November 2006. This would provide sufficient time to call for applications and expressions of interest for grants, subsidies and event sponsorship agreements in early 2007 to enable recommendations for grants to be submitted to Council in conjunction with the 2007/2008 management plan and financial estimates (should Council resolve to adopt the revised Draft Community Grants Policy and Guidelines).

To ensure continuity of current programs and activities, it is recommended that Council continue to meet all current commitments within the Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program in the 2006/2007 financial year. Should Council make a determination to adopt a revised Community Grants Program, any changes can be phased in from the 2007/2008 financial year.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform to the following objectives and strategic directions set out in Council's Strategic Plan:

> *"Investigating and planning the City's future in consultation with our community, and co-ordinating human and financial resources to achieve this future."*

Funding

There are no funding implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. That the 'Review of Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program Discussion Paper" be received.

2. The Discussion Paper be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days with submissions invited from the community regarding the issues raised in the Discussion Paper and the appropriateness of the 15 principles outlined in Section 7 of the Discussion Paper.

3. The Community Planning Advisory Committee be delegated responsibility for reviewing community submissions and feedback to develop and report to Council (by November 2006) a revised (draft) Community Grants Policy and Guidelines for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 'Review of Community and Cultural Grants and Donations Program Discussion Paper' *(distributed under separate cover).*

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 105 **ES - Draft Hawkesbury Cultural Plan 2006 - 2011 - (95494, 79342)**

Previous Item: 49, Ordinary (14 March 2006)

REPORT:

This Report has been prepared to advise Council of the outcome of the public exhibition of the Draft Hawkesbury Cultural Plan 2006-2011. The Report recommends that Council adopt the Plan and authorise staff to develop an Implementation Strategy to identify the human, material and financial resources required to put the Plan into operation (having regard to Council's adopted financial estimates and staffing resources).

Background

As previously reported to Council, in March 2005, the Australia Street Company were engaged by Council to undertake the development of a Draft Cultural Plan.

The Draft Cultural Plan was reported to Council on 14 March 2006, and Council resolved to place the Plan on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Current Situation

The closing date for the receipt of submissions in relation to the Plan was 1 May 2006. 3 submissions were received during the exhibition period. The following table summarises the issues/comments raised in these submissions.

Respondent	Issues/Comments
Hawkesbury Harvest	▪ Noted that Plan incorporates comments made by Hawkesbury Harvest during consultation phase and is pleased that Plan notes significance of agriculture to cultural landscape and heritage of the City. ▪ Requests that issues about agri-culture and agricultural heritage are expressly recognised in the Cultural Vision. HH believes that ABS definition of 'Cultural Industries' is too narrow and that agriculture should be articulated within the Hawkesbury Cultural Plan as defining the cultural landscape of the Hawkesbury. ▪ HH identifies a number of amendment to Recommended Actions within the Cultural Plan to afford HH greater linkages, representation and input within Cultural Precinct programs and activities.
Local Resident	▪ Limited reference within Cultural Plan to the role of UWS Hawkesbury, TAFE College, U3A, Community College and Richmond RAAF as contributors to cultural landscape. ▪ Plan should emphasise contribution of Hawkesbury River, indigenous history, agriculture , RAAF, UWS Hawkesbury and Show Society to the heritage of the Hawkesbury. ▪ Regional Museum being constructed in 'wrong place' and focus of Museum should be broadened to that of a "Western Sydney Museum' ▪ Catchment Management Authority should be established to clean up the Hawkesbury River.
Local Resident	▪ Council should be commended for incorporating community concerns (as expressed in workshops) into a detailed plan. ▪ Concerned regarding increased sub-division of Hawkesbury to support 'rural lifestyle blocks'. ▪ Need for the greater promotion of eco-tourism opportunities ▪ Doubtful that funds are available to implement Cultural Plan. ▪ Little recognition of the Performing Arts within Plan ▪ Council needs to move to address gaps in telecommunication and transport

Summary

In general, the submissions acknowledge that the Cultural Plan has considered and incorporated the ideas and comments arising from the community workshops and consultations which were facilitated by the consultants who prepared the Draft Plan.

The submissions raise a number of general points in relation to the need for greater acknowledgement of the contribution of agriculture, education, the Hawkesbury River and Richmond RAAF to the cultural identity and heritage of the Hawkesbury. One respondent presented suggestions to provide for a greater level of representation and input (by their organisation) into the implementation of the proposed Actions within the Plan. Some of the matters raised within the submission fall outside of the scope of what would normally be considered as the domain of a cultural planning instrument.

These issues and comments can be considered in the development of the Implementation Strategy for the Cultural Plan. The Strategy will assess the resource requirements and feasibility of each recommended Action within the Plan, to enable these Actions to be prioritised and incorporated into the Business Plan for the Cultural Precinct.

On this basis it is considered that the Draft Cultural Plan does not require amendment as the matters raised in the submissions can be addressed in conjunction with the development of the Implementation Strategy.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e.

> *"Work in partnership with community and government to implement community plans to meet the social, health, safety, leisure and cultural needs of the City."*

Funding

The adoption of the Cultural Plan has no funding implications. The Plan will be implemented within approved budget allocations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Council adopt the Hawkesbury Cultural Plan 2006-2011.

2. A copy of the Hawkesbury Cultural Plan 2006-2011 be forwarded to Arts NSW.

3. An Implementation Strategy to be developed to identify the human, material and financial resources required to put the Hawkesbury Cultural Plan into operation (having regard to Council's adopted financial estimates and staffing resources).

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 106 **ES - Terms of Reference - Development of Hawkesbury Mobility Access Plan - (95494, 98212, 79342)**

Previous Item: 136, Ordinary (10 May 2005), 306 Ordinary (11 October 2005)

REPORT:

This Report has been prepared to seek Council's endorsement of the proposed Terms of Reference for a planning process to draft a city-wide Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan.

Background

At its Ordinary Meeting of 10 May 2005 Council adopted a constitution for the Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee. The Constitution provided for the Committee to advise Council staff on the drafting of the Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan. In October 2005, Council appointed community delegates to sit on the Committee to fulfil this advisory role.

The aim of the Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan will be to identify, within an evidence based and consultative framework, the physical access requirements of residents within the City of Hawkesbury. The Plan will assess and prioritise these requirements and identify and cost a program of works to improve physical access within the City. The Plan will include an operational strategy to ascertain the human, material and financial resources required to support the implementation of the plan.

When completed the Plan will provide a blueprint to inform future planning priorities for works to be undertaken to address the access needs of cyclists, motorised mobility scooter users, pedestrians, and people with disabilities.

Current Situation

At the meeting of the Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee held on the 1st May 2006, the Committee endorsed draft terms of reference for the production of the Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan and requested that the draft Terms of Reference be reported to Council for adoption.

The Terms of Reference as endorsed by the Committee are reproduced below for Council's consideration.

The Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan – Proposed Terms of Reference

<u>Scope</u>

The Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan will be a primary planning document that will provide a blueprint to inform future planning priorities for capital works to be undertaken to address the access needs of cyclists, motorised mobility scooter users, pedestrians, and people with disabilities over the next 10 years.

<u>Content</u>

The Plan will incorporate the following elements:

- a brief ***literature review*** to document 'best practice' strategies for planning for physical access, and identify engineering and technological innovations that improve the accessibility of public infrastructure. This information will provide an evidence base to assess the effectiveness, costing and relevance of proposed capital works;

- ***a demographic analysis*** to identify the likely changes in population by age and location which could be expected to impact on the future physical access requirements of residents within the City of Hawkesbury. The information for this analysis will be sourced from the Hawkesbury Futures Demographic Study to be undertaken by Council's City Planning Directorate;

- a ***consultation strategy*** to obtain information from a sample of residents about their experiences (of the difficulty or otherwise) of moving around the City and their views as to priorities for improving physical access within the City. The strategy to provide for different consultative methodologies and a sampling regime that takes into account the geographic and social diversity of the City;

- ***a comparative*** analysis to summarise the physical access requirements of residents within the City - as expressed through consultation - and compare these findings with information in existing plans (including the Regional Bike Plan, Community Plan and other documents);

- a ***hierarchy guideline*** to enable the physical access requirements of residents within the City to be assessed and prioritised;

- a draft ***access mobility action plan*** to identify and cost a program of works to improve physical access within the City of Hawkesbury;

- an ***operational strategy*** to ascertain the human, material and financial resources required to support the implementation of the plan.

Other Planning Processes

The Plan will need to be consistent with the vision for the Hawkesbury as identified in Council's Strategic Plan. The Plan will also need to inform and/or complement the following strategic tasks:

- Social Infrastructure Support Policy.

- Risk Strategy Paper on appropriate physical and social infrastructure requirements.

- Asset Management Program for existing (and future) infrastructure.

- Liveability Index.

- Civic Index/Diversity Index.

- Community Indicators Project.

- Strategy document identifying state, regional and other infrastructure that will compliment the City's needs and reflect social and cultural requirements.

Time Frame

The draft Access Mobility Action Plan and Operational Strategy will be developed within twelve months of the adoption of the agreed Terms of Reference by Council.

Resources

The production of the Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan is estimated to require a budget of between $12,000 and $15,000.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan within a number of strategic areas i.e:

> *Planning: 'Investigating and planning for the City's Future in consultation with our community, and coordinating human and financial resources to achieve this future."*

Infrastructure: "Implement processes to identify and respond to the infrastructure requirements (information, access and mobility) of groups with special needs."

Funding

No dedicated funds have been budgeted in Council's 2006/2007 draft budget estimates for this item. Should Council adopt the Terms of Reference (as recommended by the Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee) it is proposed that the Plan would be developed 'in-house' within the Community and Cultural Services Branch and using funds allocated for program expenses within the disability and aged portfolio. Council staff will also investigate the possibility of Peppercorn Services Inc. contributing funds for the Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the proposed terms of reference for the production of the Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Item: 107 **IS - Whalan Road, East Kurrajong - Extension by Subdivision - Proposed Naming - (95495, 79346)**

REPORT:

Resulting from subdivision of Lot 141, DP 751637 Whalan Road, East Kurrajong a presently un-named public road extends in a generally southerly direction for a distance of approximately 268 metres, as indicated on the attached sketch plan.

The un-named public road is an extension of the existing public road known as Whalan Road and it is proposed that it bear the same name; the full length of Whalan Road would then extend from East Kurrajong Road to the cul-de-sac bounded by the proposed Lots 2 and 3 of subdivision of Lot 141, DP 751637, a total distance of approximately 715 metres.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

> *"Objective: Implement processes to identify and respond to the infrastructure requirements (information, access and mobility) of groups with special needs."*

Funding

Funding is available within the current budget.

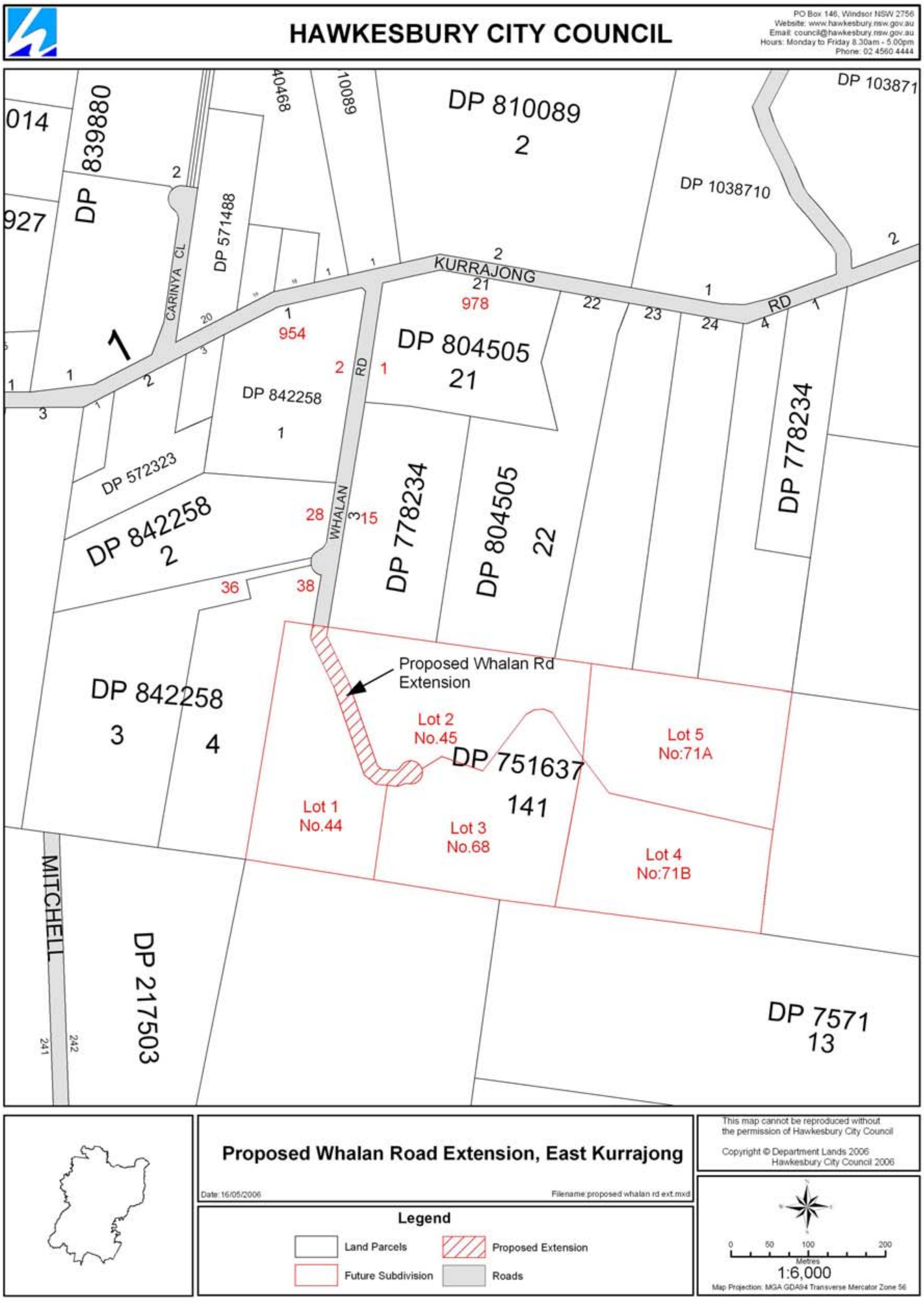
RECOMMENDATION:

That public comment be sought on naming of the extension of Whalan Road, East Kurrajong resulting from subdivision of Lot 141, DP 751637, as Whalan Road.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 Sketch plan - Proposed Whalan Road Extension, East Kurrajong

AT - 1 Sketch Plan - Proposed Whalan Road Extension, East Kurrajong



oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 108 **IS - Roads to Recovery Program - (95495, 79344)**

REPORT:

Correspondence has been received from the Hon Jim Lloyd, offering Council Grant funding under the Supplementary Roads to Recovery Programme. The total amount of the Grant is $726,959.00.

The Grant is made on the following conditions:

- the funds are spent by 30 June 2009;
- the funds are spent in accordance with the Grant funding conditions;
- A work schedule for use of the funds be submitted to the Minister by 30 September 2006.

During the next few months a schedule of work will be prepared for submission to the Minister. The proposed projects will be further reported to Council for adoption.

This offer has been accepted and returned to the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

> *"Objective: A network of towns, villages and rural localities connected by well-maintained public and private infrastructure, which supports the social and economic development of the City."*

Funding

Funding is provided from the Roads to Recovery Programs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the action taken be endorsed.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 109 **IS - Bligh Park Pedestrian Laneways - Public consultation - (95495, 79346)**

Previous Item: 23, Ordinary (8 June 2004), 198, Ordinary (28 June 2005)

REPORT:

Following representation by a resident of Bligh Park to close the laneway adjoining No 20 Harradine Crescent, Bligh Park which was reported to Council at its General Purpose Committee meeting on 1 June 2004, Council at its meeting on 8 June 2004 resolved that:

1. *Consultation take place with residents with a view to installing lighting.*

2. *A Safety Audit be undertaken by the Police for the entire laneway network in Bligh Park.*

As reported to Council at its meeting of 28 June 2005, the owners of the three adjoining properties adjacent to the laneway at No 20 Harradine Crescent were consulted in relation to the provision of lighting within the laneway with the response generally being:

- Graffiti damage occurs within broad daylight;
- Unless there is monitoring of the laneway, lighting will serve little purpose;
- Lighting of lanes which do not have a high public observation often become a meeting place;
- Lighting would become an annoyance to the adjoining properties;
- Close the laneway.

At that meeting, Council resolved:

That:

1. *Detailed public comment be invited from all adjoining Residents and Property Owners surrounding the 17 Laneways identified in the Police Audit as High Priority - Best Option to Close, as well as the general Bligh Park community, in relation to their support for the closure and purchase of the Laneways or part thereof.*

2. *Detailed investigation be undertaken of all existing Services and Function of the 17 Laneways identified as High Priority - Best Option to Close.*

3. *Options for the future of Youl Place Reserve be investigated, including the potential to rezone and subdivide the land to provide for residential development. Should any sale occur, funds should be directed in the first instance to addressing safety issues relating to remaining pathways in Bligh Park or to footpaths or parks within Bligh Park.*

Public Consultation

As part of the investigation process, the views of all residents within Bligh Park was sought and their input invited. This particularly related to the 17 Pedestrian Laneways proposed to be closed, but comment on the other remaining Pedestrian Laneways in Bligh Park was also welcomed. To ascertain the views of the Bligh Park Community, an information package, which included a questionnaire, was distributed to all owners/residents (approximately 2500) as well as the property owners not living in the Bligh Park area (approximately 950).

As a result of the Public Consultation process, 314 completed questionnaires were returned. An option was also provided for the residents to also nominate other Laneways, which they felt, should receive further consideration to closure. In view of any closure, it was also requested of the owners of properties adjacent to the Pedestrian Laneways to nominate if they would consider purchasing this land should this option become available.

A meeting with the Bligh Park Youth Group was undertaken, at their request, at which time they collectively expressed their desire for the Laneways to remain open. Points of view and concern centred on:

- Graffiti; unacceptable as it is, would then be transferred to other public/private areas. If the Laneways were to be closed, would an area be set aside for tagging/graffiti. This is to ensure public and private assets are not violated.
- The Pedestrian Laneways are used extensively by the Youth as it provides a safe and short trip.
- If the Laneways are closed will the streets of Bligh Park receive concrete footpaths as people will have to walk further.
- The people living next to Laneways bought the properties knowing full well that the Laneways existed. Would these same people request a road to be closed if unruly behaviour were to occur.

Investigation of Services within the 17 Laneways

As part of the detailed investigation of the Laneways, Table 1 provides information on the service/utilities, size and type of land for the 17 Laneways identified to be closed (High Priority Best Option to Close).

Table 1: Existing Services/Utilities within 17 Laneways

Laneway No	Location		No. of services in / crossing laneway	Approx. area of laneway (sqm)	Gas	Telstra	Water	Electricity	Stormwater	Sewer	Owner
4	Dowe Pl	Colonial Dr	1	261	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	Council Road
8	Guardian Cres	Brittania Pl to Speke Pl to Neptune Cres	3	324	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	Council Road
10	Mary Pl	Neilson Cres	2	210	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	Council Road
22	Porpoise Cres	Acres Pl	2	183	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	Council Road
25	Colonial Dr	Porpoise Cres	3	1420	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	Council Road
26	Tinningi Comm Centre	Birk Pl	1	89	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	Council Road
31	Jacobs Pl	Colonial Dr	3	213	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	Council Road
33	Harradine Cres	Youl Reserve	2	240	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Council Road
34	Harradine Cres	Youl Reserve (E)	3	105	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	Council Road
40	Scarsborough Cres	Youl Reserve	1	566	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	Council Reserve
43	Sirius Rd	Bushland	1	93	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	Council Road
45	Golden Grove	Bushland	1	160	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	Crown Reserve
46	Charlotte Pl	Bushland	1	288	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	Crown Reserve
47	Supply Pl	Bushland	1	96	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	Council Road
48	Jenkins Pl	Rifle Range Rd	3	214	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	Council Road
49	Moore Pl	Rifle Range Rd	2	242	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Council Road
50	Moore Pl	Marsden Cres	2	259	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	Council Road
				Total Services	**0**	**1**	**0**	**9**	**10**	**12**	

Many of the 17 Laneways have either 1 (one) or more Utility/Service within it. The Laneways serve as a dual purpose in providing both pedestrian access as well as a corridor for many services such as the drainage network - both street and interallotment. Easements can be created over these Services/utilities. Sewer is the only Service/Utility not requiring an easement. Laneways 25,43,46,47,48 & 49 also provide for Overland Stormwater Flow. This is preliminary information awaiting the finalisation of the Overland Flow Study currently being undertaken for Bligh Park (expected completion June 2006).

Splitting the laneway equally to divide between 2 property owners may not be practical. Many of the laneways with Stormwater also receive interallotment drainage from adjoining properties. Currently these interallotment drainage lines intersect Council drainage pits within the laneway. Accessibility is available as the laneways are Publicly owned. Once the Laneways are privately owned access for private property owners will not be as easy. The easements will be in favour of Council and not the adjoining private property owners. In the event of blockage within an interallotment drainage line, Council may need to be the first point of contact, placing a burden on Council resources.

Analysis

Plans for the Bligh Park Pedestrian Laneways will be on display (Attachments 1 & 2) at the meeting outlining the properties which submitted Questionnaires and their views in relation to Closure of the Laneways as well as support for purchase of their adjoining Laneway.

Attachment 3 (forwarded separately) lists the comments received. Specific details such as name and address have been withheld.

Generally, responses received varied and were based on many different combination such as:

- Agree to Close all 17 Laneways
- Agree to Close the 17 Laneways as well as other Laneways to the extent of including all 57 Laneways.
- Agree to Close specific Laneways not included in the 17 Laneways.
- Agree to Closing some of the 17 Laneways with combined objections to Closing some of the 17 Laneways
- Agree to Closing Laneways not included in the 17 Laneways.
- Objection to Closing the 17 Laneways.
- Objection to Closing some of the 17 Laneways
- Objection to Closing Specific Laneways

In view of the varying comments received, the information has been collated to reflect the following:

- Agree to Close the 17 Laneways = 200
- Agree to Close Some of the 17 Laneways and/or other Laneways = 28
- Object to Closing the 17 Laneways = 52
- Object to Close Specific Laneways = 33
- Neither agree nor object = 1

Table 2 outlines the Public Comment received specifically related to the 17 Laneways.

Table 2: Public Comment on the 17 Laneways

Laneway No.	Location		Agree to Close [1]	Object to Closure [2]	Private Properties Surrounding	Consider Purchase
4	Dowe Pl	Colonial Dr	203	54	5	4
8	Guardian Cres	Brittania Pl to Speke Pl to Neptune Cres	201	57	4	3
10	Mary Pl	Neilson Cres	204	57	4	1
22	Porpoise Cres	Acres Pl	200	54	4	3
25	Colonial Dr	Porpoise Cres	201	57	11	1
26	Tinningi Comm Centre	Birk Pl	201	53	2	1
31	Jacobs Pl	Colonial Dr	201	59	4	3
33	Harradine Cres	Youl Reserve	203	61	3	3
34	Harradine Cres	Youl Reserve (E)	200	61	2	1
40	Scarsborough Cres	Youl Reserve	203	56	5	4
43	Sirius Rd	Bushland	202	54	2	1
45	Golden Grove	Bushland	201	55	1	0
46	Charlotte Pl	Bushland	202	53	2	0
47	Supply Pl	Bushland	202	52	2	2
48	Jenkins Pl	Rifle Range Rd	203	56	4	2
49	Moore Pl	Rifle Range Rd	203	57	4	3
50	Moore Pl	Marsden Cres	202	56	4	2

Note: 1 Combination of “Agree to Close the 17 Laneways = 200”plus specific information
2 Combination of “Object to Closing the 17 Laneways = 52” plus specific information

From the 17 Laneways listed for Closure consideration, 13 Laneways have clear support from the adjoining owners to purchase accordingly. This will be subject to “Purchase Cost”. These Laneways include 4,8,22,26,31,33,34, 40,43,47,48,49 & 50 have the clear support of the adjoining owners to purchase. This leave only Laneways 10,25,45&46 with partial or no support to purchase.

It is important to note that overall Objection to the Closure of the 17 Laneways as well as Objections to specific Laneways within the 17 Laneways reflect on the figures expressed in Table 2.

An example would be Laneway 33: whereby the 3 adjoining owners support the purchase, 200 submissions support closing the 17 Laneways as well as the 3 Specifically supporting closing this laneway, 52 overall Objections to closing the 17 Laneways as well as 9 specific Objections to this laneway being closed. Further details are available in Attachment 3.

Support to purchase other laneways was received from their respective property owners. Only those laneways with interest to purchase have been listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Support to Purchase other Laneways

Laneway No	Location		Private Properties Surrounding	Consider Purchase
2	Rich Cl	Bounty Reserve	2	1
6	Fullerton Cres	Colonial Dr	4	1
7	Bateman Pl	Colonial Dr & Alexander St	8	2
7a	Colonial Dr	Scarsborough Cres	13	2
7b	Scarsborough Cres	Sirius Rd	8	1
8a	Brittania Pl	Speke Pl	4	1
8b	Speke Pl	Neptune Cres	4	2
9	Juliana Pl	Neilson Cres	4	2
11	Neilson Cres	Chifley Pl	4	2
12	Knight Pl	Neilson Cres	4	2
13	Bounty Cres	Neilson Cres	4	2
14	Alex Pl	Bounty Cres	4	2
15	Bounty Cres	Paine Pl	4	1
17	Porpoise Cres	Risbey Pl	4	2
18	Porpoise Cres	Samuel St	4	3
19	Samuel St	Dawes Pl	4	1
20	Samuel St	Dawes Pl	4	2
21	Settlers Cres	Samuel St	4	2
23	Settlers Cres	Wright Pl	4	3
24	Rifle Range Rd	Ewing Pl	2	1
28	Harradine Cres	Albert Pl	4	1
29	Albert Pl	Uren Pl	4	1
30	Uren Pl	Jacobs Pl	4	3
32	Jacobs Pl	Harradine Cres	4	2
37	Marsden Cres	Youl Reserve (W)	5	2
38	Sirius Rd	Youl Reserve	2	1
39	Sirius Rd	Golden Grove	4	4
41	Fishburn Pl	Friendship Pl	4	2
42	Friendship Pl	Sirius Rd	4	1
44	Sirius Rd	Lady Penrhyn Pl	4	1
51	Davis Pl	Youl Reserve	2	1
52	Colonial Dr	Broome Pl	4	2

Note: No Support to purchase any part of Laneways 1,3,5,7c,16,27,35 &36.

Extract of Public Comment from Attachment 3

Agree to Close Laneways:

- The advantages of living in a quiet cul-de-sac are diminished by the loutish, often drunken, behaviour of those who use the cul-de-sac as a short cut on Fri/Sat night - a situation that wouldn't exist if the laneway was closed.
- Police have been called numerous times, entire panels of fence have been bashed, windows shattered by eggs, house has had baked beans thrown at windows, letter box & security light bashed, cars have had lights and side view mirrors smashed, dead birds have been thrown into pool, drunken teenagers vomiting in front yard.
- Please close lane! Have experienced on 2 occasions bricks thrown through bathroom & toilet windows, were forced to cover windows with security wire. Continually remove graffiti off our & neighbours fences.
- Residents/Owners since 93 - suffered burglary with menace, plus personal threat. Other houses adjoining also robbed. Owners sold & renters left area. Noise, graffiti, broken fences and doors. Teenage sex in reserve plus drug parties.

Object to Close Laneways:

- Is this a solution or only move vandals, while blocking access to young, elderly, disabled or disadvantaged. Possible to increase surveillance and patrols of area.
- The laneways are not only used by school children, but as a means to catch buses at the nearest stop. Walking to Bligh Park shops and Windsor Leagues Club would take at least twice as long. Youl Pl Reserve would be inaccessible.
- Concerned for residents in Britannia Pl & Kitty Pl/Speke Pl as their quick access to the school would be denied. Children would be exposed to further traffic hazards. If you close one, need to close all, cannot discriminate between residents!
- Strongly against closure, believes problem lies with type of housing and residents, not laneways. Has gone from new estate of young families to a high transit area of rental properties predominately young people. Would disadvantage residents in Stage 2 & 3 and isolate them from community facilities available in Stage 1.
- No 31 & 33 are used twice daily for my children to school. If all laneways on Harradine are closed many school children would be disadvantaged.
- Has lived 2 doors up from laneway for 11 years, have never had any trouble. Has daughter in wheelchair who uses laneway to go to school.
- Strongly object, No 33 used by students to and from school. As near neighbour have not found pedestrian access a problem. Removal of freedom to walk about estate, or betrayal of what was a feature of this estate.
- Laneways 37 and 40 are part of the Youl Reserve. If these lanes are closed, there will effectively be a parcel of bushland that has no through pedestrian traffic. There are already issues of people dumping rubbish behind their back fence. By closing this reserve to pedestrian usage there will be very little community ownership of this reserve and less thought and appreciation of this natural area.
- Laneway 45 is an important extension of the pathway that we have created in this bushland reserve, linking the shopping and neighbourhood centre to Riffle Range Road and this general area. Without this pathway there will be little opportunity for people to visit and appreciate this bushland reserve.

Requirements in Closing Laneways include:

- Application to Department of Lands for approval of closure by Minister
- Road Closure Plan for each laneway - (survey)
- Consolidation Plan of laneway to respective adjacent properties (survey),
- Council Development Application for lot creation/consolidation
- Valuations
- Contracts for Sale for each lot to be sold
- Further Public consultation to meet statutory requirements
- Agreement by parties
- Gain approval of relevant authorities for easements for services
- Preparation of easement documents
- Relocation of fencing and possible removal of concrete

Costs for the above requirements include:

- Application fee to Department of Lands
- Survey fees
- Development application fees & costs of any conditions
- Plan registration fees
- Contract transfer costs, including stamp duty, legal fees
- Valuation fees
- Purchase price (market value)
- Administration fees
- Advertising costs
- Costs of relocation of fencing, services and possible removal of concrete where necessary would need to be considered.

Comments

As a result of the Public consultation process the majority of respondents have supported the closure of the 17 High Priority - Best Option to Close Pedestrian Laneways within Bligh Park. There is support to purchase a number of laneways if closed.

It is pointed out that the ultimate decision for the closure of a public road/laneway is made by The Minister for Lands through the Department of Lands. All issues relating to the closure must be resolved prior to a decision being made by that Department. Where a laneway adjoins multiple properties it is generally the Department's requirement that all adjoining owners agree to the closure. It is also preferable to ensure that the whole length of a laneway is closed to avoid any dead ends being created.

It should also be noted that in the course of a road closure application received by Council, it is normal practice that the applicant is responsible for all of the costs outlined above including paying market value for the land. Such costs often exceed several thousands of dollars excluding the purchase costs. The cost of relocation of services where applicable could include relocation of street lighting, electricity where appropriate located on the land, it being noted that usually the applicant initiating the closure would be responsible for such costs or easements and this would need to be agreed.

Consideration would need to be given, in regards to who is to be responsible for the costs of such action being undertaken and whether market value of the land would be required to be paid to Council, prior to undertaking any further consultation with affected owners. The market value of the land would be determined by a consultant valuer.

In past applications, obtaining the agreement of all applicants, resolving any easement or relocation of services and having all parties being able to pay the costs and market value of the land has been difficult to achieve where multiple properties adjoin the laneway.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

> *"Investigations and planning the City's future in consultation with our community, and coordinating human and financial resources to achieve this future."*

Funding

Funding to be allocated subject to Recommendation requirements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The closure of laneways numbered 4, 8, 22, 26, 43 and 47 be adopted in principle.

2. Negotiation with adjoining owners of the laneways identified in relation to support of the closures and possible purchase of those laneways be undertaken.

3. The matter be further reported to Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 - Bligh Park Pedestrian Laneways - Questionnaires returned (Displayed at Meeting)

AT - 2 - Bligh Park Pedestrian Laneways - Support to Purchase Laneways (Displayed at Meeting)

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

SUPPORT SERVICES

Item: 110 SS - 2006/2007 Remuneration for Councillors and Mayor - (95496, 96332)

REPORT:

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal, pursuant to Section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, has recently determined the categories for Councils, County Councils and Mayoral Offices and the maximum and minimum amount of fees to be paid during the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.

Hawkesbury City Council is currently categorised as a Category 3 Council.

The tribunal has determined that the annual fees to be paid for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 for a Category 3 Council are as follows:

	Councillor Annual Fee		Mayor Additional Fee	
	Minimum	*Maximum*	*Minimum*	*Maximum*
Category 3	$6,355.00	$13,980.00	$13,510.00	$30,520.00

The Tribunal determined that having regard to any economic data and the views of the assessors, that an increase of 4% in fees for Councillors and Mayors was appropriate.

In the past it has been the practice for Council to pay the maximum fee and the following table depicts the annual and monthly payments that will be paid to Councillors, the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor if the practice is maintained. The Deputy Mayor fee has been maintained at 15% of the Mayoral fee.

	Councillors Fees		Mayor / Deputy Mayor *		Maximum Total	
	Maximum - Annual	Maximum - Monthly	Maximum - Annual	Maximum - Monthly	Annual	Monthly
Councillors	$13,980.00	$1,165.00			$13,980.00	$1,165.00
Mayor	$13,980.00	$1,165.00	$30,520.00 less $4,578.00	$2,161.83.	$39,992.00	$3,326.83
Deputy Mayor	$13,980.00	$1,165.00	$4,578.00	$381.50	$18,558.00	$1,546.50

* It should be noted that pursuant to section 249 (2), the fee paid to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, is paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as a Councillor.

The current fees for Councillors and the Mayor are $13,440 and $29,349, respectively, with an additional fee of $4,401.75 being paid to the Deputy Mayor and deducted from the Mayor's fees.

Based upon Council's previous practice of paying the maximum fee as determined by the Remuneration Tribunal the following recommendation is submitted for Council's consideration.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

Not applicable in this case.

Funding

Councillors fees provided for in the 2006/2007 Draft Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The fee for Councillors for 2006/2007 be set at $13,980.00.

2. The additional fee for the Mayor be set at $30,520.00, and the Deputy Mayor's additional fee be set at $4,578.00 to be deducted from the Mayor's fee.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 111 **SS - Proposed Acquisition by Integral Energy for Electrical Substation - Bourke Street, Richmond - (95496, 79337)**

REPORT:

Integral Energy currently operates an Electrical Zone Substation located adjacent to the Richmond Golf Club Car Park in Bourke Street, Richmond which occupies an area of $720m^2$. Correspondence was received from Integral Energy on the 2 February 2006, advising that they were revising its area study and had determined that the existing substation was in need of augmentation in order to meet the long term load need of the Richmond and surrounding area. They advised that the a site area of approximately $3000\text{-}3500m^2$ would be required to accommodate a new substation.

They further advised that after undertaking many field trips that they were proposing two options for suitable locations for the proposed substation:

1. a portion of "Pound Paddock" (Part Lot 1 DP 1041524) fronting the corner of Bourke Street and Blacktown Road or;

2. acquisition of a portion of the Golf Course (Lot 7007 DP 1030962) fronting Blacktown Road.

A location plan indicating the proposed sites is attached.

Pound Paddock is owned by Council and is community land, zoned Open Space Recreation 6(c) and is managed by the Hawkesbury Sports Council. The Golf Course is Crown land, Council is the Reserve Trust Manager and the land is leased to the Richmond Golf Club for a period of 20 years commencing on 1 July 2005. Given that both sites are managed by Council Integral requested Council's concurrence to their acquisition of either of the options. It is noted that they also advised that should the Substation be relocated it is possible that the existing substation would be rehabilitated and returned to the Crown.

Correspondence was sent to both the Richmond Golf Club and the Hawkesbury Sports Council advising them of Integral's proposal and seeking their comments. Both organisations have responded raising a number of concerns regarding either option.

The Richmond Golf Club responded on 28 March 2006, and after meeting with Council staff, the Mayor and representatives from Integral on Friday 5 May 2006, sent a further response on 18 May 2006 indicating their objection to the proposal. They note that they are the oldest golf course in NSW on its original site. The Club indicated that it has recently expended significant funds on improvement works in the area proposed to be acquired and that the course could not be rearranged to accommodate the proposal and still retain 18 holes. They consider the proposal would cause significant financial burden on the Club.

They also raise concern regarding aesthetics of placing a substation at the entry point of the town of Richmond and the impression this would give visitors and residents as they enter the town. They also questioned whether other sites were investigated for such a major project as proposed.

The Hawkesbury Sports Council also responded on 17 March 2006 advising the following;

> *"Hawkesbury Sports Council would like to advise that they strongly oppose the acquisition of this land by Integral Energy for the following reasons:-*
>
> 1. *The site is currently used by several local schools and the loss of this land would affect this usage.*
>
> 2. *Any loss of land at Pound Paddock Reserve would result in the reserve being of no further use to sporting associations within the Hawkesbury District. As such, if Integral*

Energy were to acquire this land, Hawkesbury Sports Council would recommend that Pound Paddock Reserve be handed back to Hawkesbury City Council for their administration as it would no longer be an active recreational field.

3. Due to the location of this reserve, it is constantly used by visitors to the area. The construction of a sub station on Blacktown Road would severely restrict the view of the reserve by tourists.

Hawkesbury Sports Council would like to suggest that Hawkesbury City Council investigate locating the sub station on the southern side opposite corner which would not impinge on the amenity or use of Pound Paddock.

I would like to reiterate that Hawkesbury Sports Council strongly opposes the acquisition of the land at Pound Paddock Reserve by Integral Energy and it is hoped that Hawkesbury City Council will support this view."

During the meeting on Friday 5 May 2006 discussions were held regarding other options that may be available to Integral Energy for this purpose. One option considered at the meeting was to expand the current site. This would involve the neighbouring lands which are Crown land with the Girl Guides and Boy Scout Associations being the Trust Managers and containing a Guide Hall and a Scout Hall.

Discussions were also held regarding the possibility of utilising the University of Western Sydney land on the other side of Blacktown Road.

The representatives of Integral Energy agreed to undertake further investigations in regards to the proposal with a view to seeking alternative locations to those currently proposed and to contact any other affected groups such as the Girl Guides and Boy Scout Associations. Council staff undertook to provide assistance in this regard.

Comments

Given the size and location of the proposal, the potential visual impact to the community is of great concern. The effect on the current users of either site is of concern and may impact financially and socially on many users of the sites.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

“Processing of miscellaneous property matters.”

Funding

No impact on current funding.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

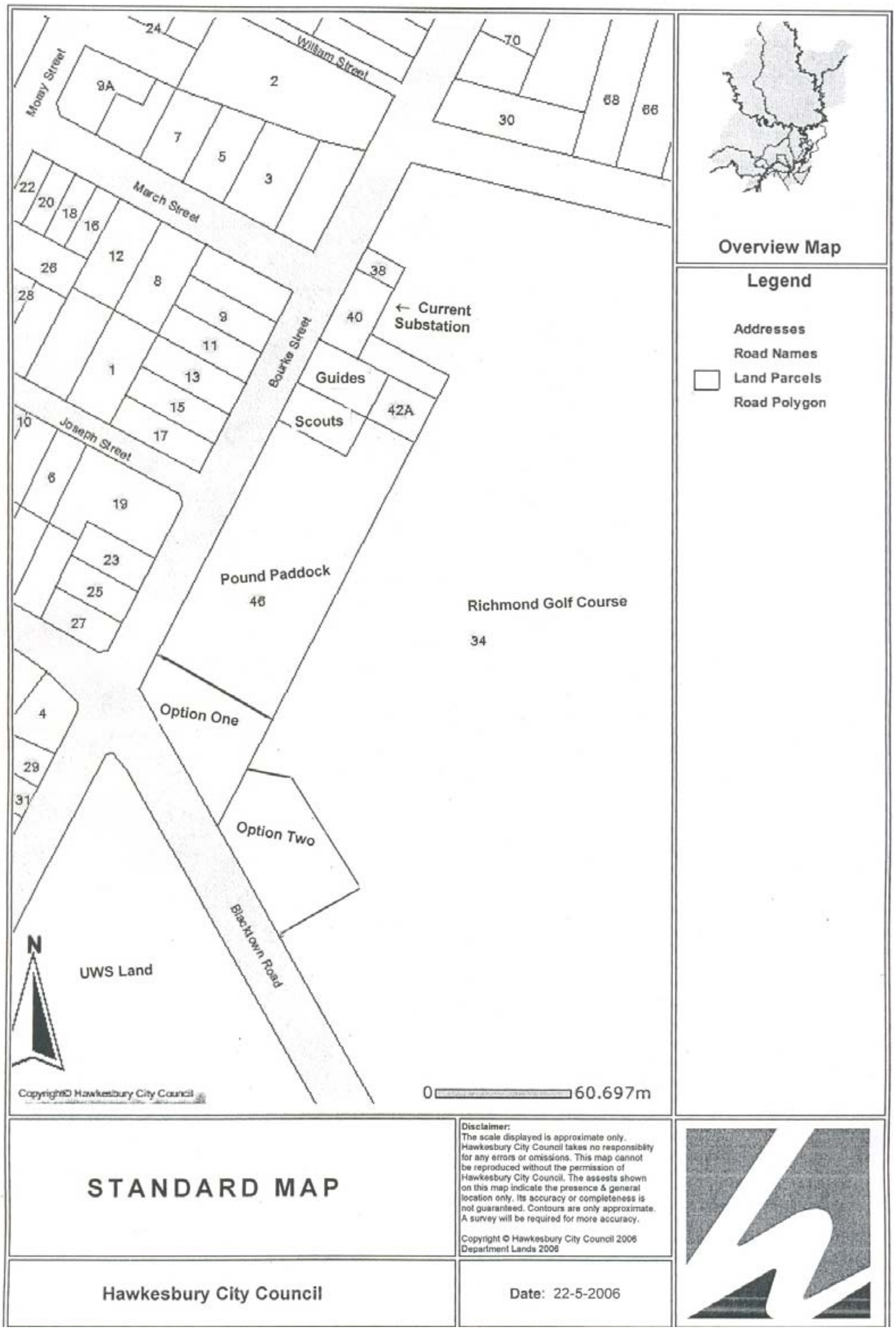
1. Integral Energy be advised that in view of the comments provided by both the Richmond Golf Club and the Hawkesbury Sports Council, the unsuitable location of both proposed options at a significant entry point to Richmond and the significant impact either option would have on these community facilities, together with the potential availability of other more appropriate options, that Council does not support the current options suggested for the augmentation of the existing electrical substation in Bourke Street, Richmond, nor would it be prepared to concur with their acquisition by Integral Energy.

2. Integral Energy be advised due to unsuitability of the suggested options that Council strongly considers that other options, including expanding the current site in consultation with the Girl Guides and Boy Scout Associations and the use UWS land, should be pursued by Integral Energy and that Council be prepared to assist in facilitating these options, if requested.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 Location Map

AT - 1 Location Map



oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 112 **SS - Proposed Acquisition by RTA for Road Widening - Lots 1 & 3, Section K, DP 759096 (Windsor Catholic Cemetery) - (95496, 96333, 33305)**

REPORT:

Council considered on 28 March 2006 a report regarding the necessary acquisition by the Roads and Traffic Authority of part of the Roman Catholic Burial Ground, being Part of Lots 1 & Lot 3, Sec K, DP 759096 located on the corner of Richmond Road and Macquarie Street, Windsor in conjunction with the construction of the Windsor Flood Evacuation Route. The total area of the subject lots is 2395.7m2.

Council resolved at that meeting:

"That:

1. *Council acknowledge the compulsory acquisition of Part of Lots 1 & 3, Sec K, DP 759096, being approximately 980m^2 of Windsor Catholic Cemetery by the Roads and Traffic Authority in association with construction of the Windsor Flood Evacuation Route.*

2. *Council concur to the compulsory acquisition of Part Lot 1 & 3, Sec K, DP 759096, being 980m^2 of Windsor Catholic Cemetery, subject to the enactment of an Act of parliament that provides for the preconditions a) to d) in the report and the concurrence of the Crown and the Diocese of Parramatta.*

3. *That all necessary documents, associated with this matter, be signed under the Seal of Council.*

4. *Council make approaches to the RTA regarding the fencing of the cemetery.*

5. *Council approach the Catholic Church to ascertain whether they are satisfied with the process."*

The preconditions referred to in the resolution are as follows;

a) the cemetery land may be compulsorily acquired by the RTA for the purposes of public road;

b) the RTA may arrange and carry out the exhumation and reinterment work;

c) the property adjustment works (including the relocation of monuments) are to be in accordance with agreements between the parties (being the Crown, Council, Diocese of Parramatta and RTA) and as approved by the NSW Heritage Council and NSW Department of Health; and

d) such works are to constitute the full compensation under the Act and that no monetary compensation is payable.

Council has been advised by correspondence dated 15 May 2006 that:

"following the outcome of subsurface testing within the cemetery, the RTA has now been able to amend the Macquarie Street/Richmond Road intersection design to ensure that no graves or human remains will be affected by the proposed roadworks…As no human remains are to be disturbed it will not be necessary for the RTA to proceed with an Act of Parliament to acquire the land."

The RTA now intends to compulsory acquire the land using it's compulsory acquisition powers. It is noted that the area to be acquired is smaller than originally proposed at approximately 615m^2. The RTA advise that the preconditions outlined in the previous report will continue to apply, with the exception of (b) and the NSW Department of Health will no longer be involved (c), as no exhumation or relocation of graves will be required.

They further advise that they will continue to liaise with Council and the Diocese of Parramatta during the preparation of the plan of management for the Cemetery.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

> *"Processing of Miscellaneous property matters."*

Funding

There are no effects on current funding.

RECOMMENDATION:

That

1. Council acknowledge the compulsory acquisition of Part of Lots 1 & 3, Sec K, DP 759096, being approximately 615m^2 of Windsor Catholic Cemetery by the Roads and Traffic Authority in association with construction of the Windsor Flood Evacuation Route.

2. Council concur to the compulsory acquisition of Part Lot 1 & 3, Sec K, DP 759096, being 615m^2 of Windsor Catholic Cemetery, subject to the following preconditions and the concurrence of the Crown and the Diocese of Parramatta:

   a) The cemetery land may be compulsorily acquired by the RTA for the purposes of public road.

   b) The property adjustment works (including the relocation of monuments) are to be in accordance with agreements between the parties (being the Crown, Council, Diocese of Parramatta and RTA) and as approved by the NSW Heritage Council.

   c) Such works are to constitute the full compensation under the Act and that no monetary compensation is payable.

3. That all necessary documents, associated with this matter, be signed under the Seal of Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 113 SS - Goods and Services Tax Compliance - (96332)

REPORT:

The Department of Local Government previously required Council to have an independent GST review undertaken and a GST Audit Review Report prepared by an external auditor and lodged with the Department of Local Government.

Effective from the 2004/2005 financial year, the Department of Local Government has changed the requirements, now requesting Council to provide a certificate of confirmation signed by the Mayor, one other Councillor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer, in lieu of an independent review. For the years after 30 June 2005, the certificates will be for the period 1 July, 2005 to 30 April, 2006 to enable the department to provide more accurate and current information to NSW Treasury.

The certificate of confirmation requires Council to certify that -

- Hawkesbury City Council has paid voluntary GST for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 April 2006;
- adequate management arrangements and internal controls were in place to enable the Council to adequately account for its GST liabilities and recoup all GST input tax credits eligible to be claimed; and
- no GST non-compliance events by the Council were identified by or raised with the Australian Taxation Office.

Management confirms that all voluntary GST has been paid for the period, that appropriate internal controls and systems are in place to account for Councils GST liabilities and that no GST non-compliance event has been identified or raised with the Australian Taxation Office.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Goods and Services Tax Certificate be endorsed in accordance with Department of Local Government Circular 05/26.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 Goods and Services Tax Certificate.

AT - 1 Goods and Services Tax Certificate

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWKESBURY

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX CERTIFICATE

Payment of Voluntary GST 1 July 2005 to 30 April 2006

To assist compliance with Section 114 of the Commonwealth Constitution, we certify that:

- Voluntary GST has been paid by Hawkesbury City Council for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 April 2006.
- Adequate management arrangements and internal controls were in place to enable the Council to adequately account for its GST liabilities and recoup all GST input tax credits eligible to be claimed.
- No GST non-compliance events by the Council were identified by or raised with the Australian Taxation Office.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 30 May 2006.

……………………….	……………………….
Bart BASSETT	Dianne FINCH
MAYOR	**COUNCILLOR**
……………………….	……………………….
Graeme FAULKNER	Lisa DESMOND
GENERAL MANAGER	**RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER**

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

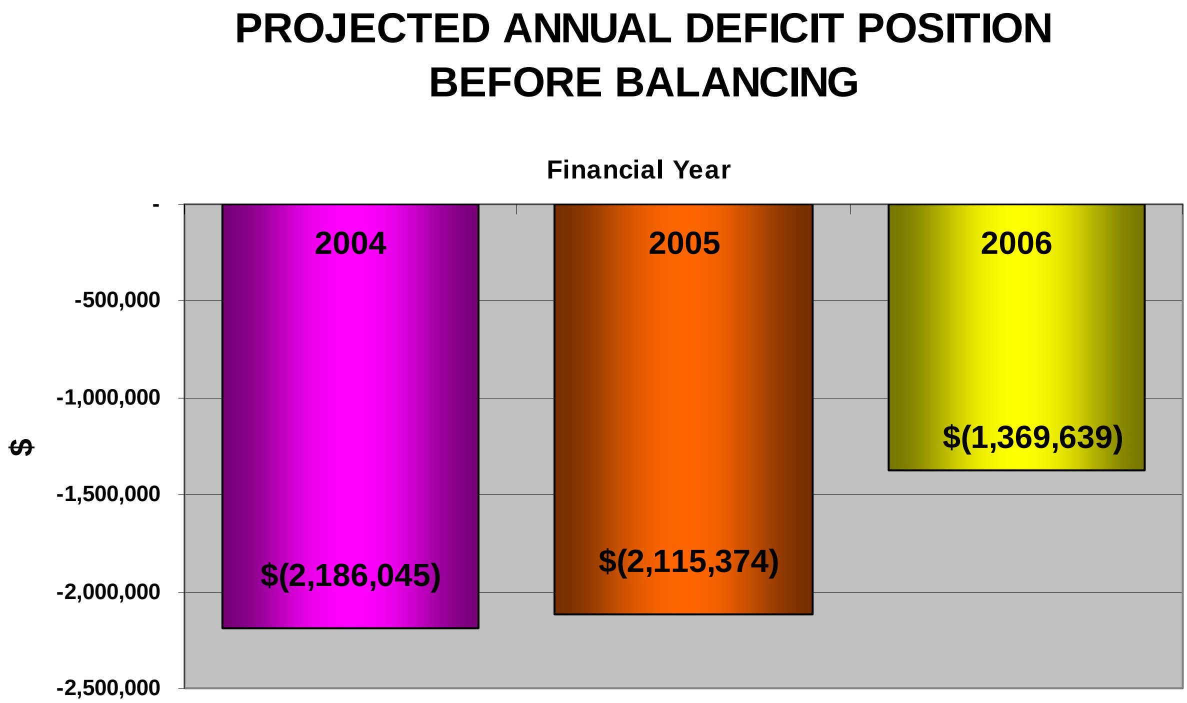
Item: 114 **SS - March Quarterly Review - 2005-2006 Management Plan - (95496)**

REPORT:

The March Quarterly Review of the 2005-2006 Management Plan is reported to Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 as amended. The review for the 9 (nine) month period ending 31 March 2006 has been completed and reports an estimated balanced position, albeit not without significant reductions in program and operating costs, to offset reductions in expected revenue streams.

The increasing cost pressures and reduction in revenue streams continue in this quarterly review with a total unfavourable adjustments of $472,525. To offset these adjustments additional fee and grant income of $142,796 was received, program cuts of $167,243 were necessary and $162,486 was required to be cut from capital works to balance the operational budget.

This trend continues from previous financial years where unfavourable adjustments in both the 2003/04 and 2004/05 year totaled over $2 million each year and to date this financial year the deficit position is $1,369,639.



The major contributing factor to the consecutive deficits this financial year is the reduction in revenue streams against budget projections which resulted in a net deficit in revenue of $355,184. The reduction in revenue has been the result of a culmination of factors including the following -

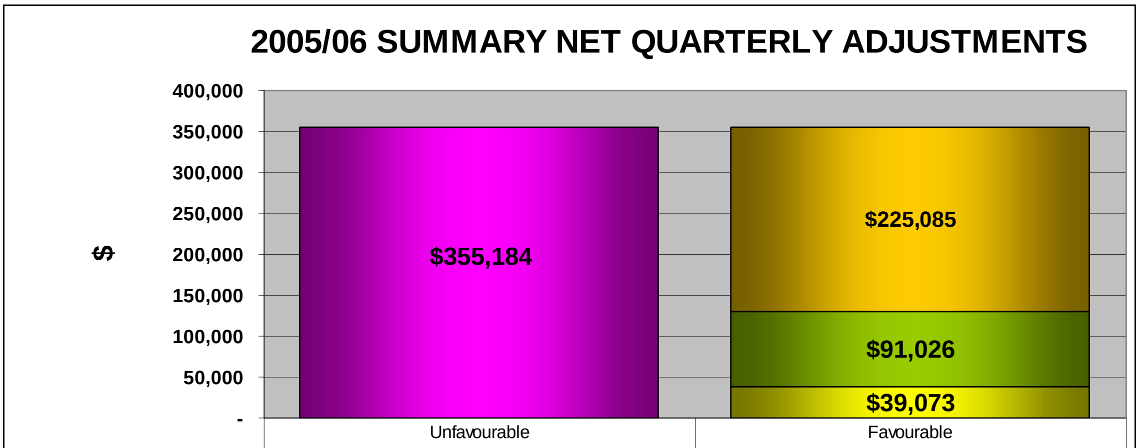
1. The continued downturn in the building and construction industry during the financial year has resulted in $184,000 less in revenue from development applications and building certification fees (a 16% reduction in activity).

2. A reduction in animal control fees of $83,000, the result of reduced life time animal registrations as the introduction of these fees taper off.

3. A reduction in sewerage management fees of $61,429 on budget projections, the direct result of recurring staff vacancies to undertake inspections.

4. A reduction in rental income projections due to property vacancies and initial leasing arrangements.

5. A reduction in interest earnings due to reduced levels of cash and property sales not eventuating to repay the internal loan.



	Unfavourable	Favourable
Capital Expenditure		225,085
Employee Costs		91,026
Operational Costs		39,073
Revenue	355,184	

This significant reduction in revenue streams has been offset by reduced employee costs resulting from the implementation of a staff freeze for the majority of this financial year and the redundancy of staff positions.

In addition to this it has been necessary to reduce capital works by $225,085 to balance the quarterly deficits. Although this strategy will alleviate short-term financial deficits, the continued implementation of this strategy i.e diverting funding from capital to meet operational requirements, will further compound the impact that limited funding has on the condition of Council's infrastructure.

A summary of major variations from the adopted budget are as follows:

SUMMARY OF VARIATIONS			
Unfavourable Variances		**Favourable Variances**	
EMPLOYEE COSTS		**EMPLOYEE COSTS**	
Richmond Pool	26,468	Internal Audit	(1,571)
Community Services	9,583	SMF Vacancy	(7,000)
Total	**36,051**	**Total**	**(8,571)**
OTHER EXPENDITURE		**OTHER EXPENDITURE**	
Legal Expenses	102,387	Community Admin. Expenses	(21,616)
Office Expenditure	4,241	Building & Maintenance	(17,909)
Parking Fines Processing	6,000	Pollution Control Expenses	(14,627)
Plant Maintenance	10,000	Office Expenditure	(6,792)
Building & Maintenance	29,385	Animal Control	(11,264)
Operating Expenses	50,298	Recreation Activities	(11,149)
		Operating Expenses	(25,716)

SUMMARY OF VARIATIONS			
		Relief Ferry	(24,600)
		Training	(15,000)
		Communications	(10,000)
Total	**202,311**	**Total**	**(158,673)**
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**	
No.1000 Kurmond Road	26,309	Roadworks Construction	(3,844)
Reserve Transfers	8,691	Mitchell Drive Glossodia	(80,260)
		North Richmond Park	(18,996)
		Woodbury Reserve	(24,259)
		SES Plant	(18,700)
		Reserve Transfers	(16,427)
Total	**35,000**	**Total**	**(162,486)**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**273,362**	**TOTAL EXPENDITURE**	**(329,729)**
REVENUE		**REVENUE**	
Fee Income	41,102	S149 Certificates	(10,680)
Other Income	773	Fee Income	(21,898)
Animal Control Income	60,485	Parking Income	(22,256)
Development Income	55,624	Other Income	(13,089)
SMF Inspections	21,429	Rental Income	(13,213)
Private Works	19,750	Fines & Penalties	(11,166)
Rental Income		Richmond Pool Income	(19,358)
Total	**199,163**	**Total**	**(111,660)**
		GRANT INCOME	
		Library Grant	(31,136)
TOTAL INCOME	**199,163**	**TOTAL INCOME**	**(142,796)**
Grand Total	**472,525**	**Grand Total**	**(472,525)**

These adjustments have resulted in a balanced net budget position for the period ending 31 March 2006. These variations are discussed in more detail in the 2005-2006 Management Plan March Quarterly Review.

Draft budgets prepared for 20-06/2007 are based on best estimates of realistic revenue expectations given the revenue decline experienced in the past.

In addition, projects aimed at identifying new revenue streams beyond traditional resources have commenced with reports anticipated to be placed before Council in December 2006 for consideration.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

> ***"****Preparation of quarterly reviews of management targets and financial information."*

RECOMMENDATION:

The quarterly review of the 2005-2006 Management Plan and Financial Statement for the period ending 31 March 2006 be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 2005-2006 Management Plan Review - March Quarter (Distributed under separate cover).

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

Item: 115 **SS - Monthly Investments Report - April 2006 - (95496, 96332)**

REPORT:

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation requires that each month, details of all money that has been invested under section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be reported to a meeting of Council.

The following tables outline the investment portfolio held by Council as at the end of April 2006. All investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

April 2006

Investment Type	Balance B/fwd		Deposits	Withdrawals	Accrued Interest Reinvested	Balance End of Month	
Managed Funds	$19,099,736.36	*			$92,181.01	$19,191,917.37	**
On Call Funds	$3,950,000.00		$450,000.00	-$1,870,000.00		$2,530,000.00	
Term Investments	$930,000.00					$930,000.00	
TOTAL	$23,979,736.36		$450,000.00	-$1,870,000.00	$92,181.01	$22,651,917.37	

* Actual
** Anticipated closing balance. This may vary slightly depending upon final interest return advice.

Investment Commentary

The investment portfolio decreased by $1.33 million during April 2006. Lower income was received from rate payments as no rates instalments are not due till the end of May. Also contributing to the decrease in the portfolio is the fact that payments exceeded income by $1.47m during the month of April.

Managed Fund performance exceeded the benchmark (UBS Australia) Bank Bill Index in April 2006 with an average return after fees of 5.85 %, compared with the index of 5.51%. The managed funds portfolio has achieved a return after fees for the past 12 months of 6.13%, which outperformed the (UBS Australia) Bank Bill Index of 5.75% for the corresponding 12 month period.

Official cash interest rates have remained unchanged at 5.50%.

The investment portfolio is diversified across a number of investment types. This includes a number of managed funds, term deposits and on-call accounts.

The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Comparisons are made between existing investments with available products that are not part of Council's portfolio. Independent advice is sought on new investment opportunities.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

> *"Maximise return on Council's investment portfolio."*

Funding

Funds invested with the aim of achieving budgeted income in 2005/2006.

Lisa Desmond
Responsible Accounting Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Item: 116 **SS - Lease Agreement - Hawkesbury City Council and Craig Crowther (previously t/as CT Architects P/L), 139 March St, Richmond - (95496, 79337) CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason for Confidentiality

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.*

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act as it relates to an existing Lease Agreement and the information is regarded as being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or reveal a trade secret and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) & (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other relevant documentation relating to this matter are to be withheld from the press and public.

Item: 117 **SS - Lease to Kingcott - Shop 9, Wilberforce Shopping Centre - "Wilberforce Hair & Nails " - (95496, 79337) CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason for Confidentiality

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.*

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act as it relates to an existing Lease and the information is regarded as being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or reveal a trade secret and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) & (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other relevant documentation relating to this matter are to be withheld from the press and public.

Item: 118 **SS - Request for Access to Information - Mr H Buckett - (95496) CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason for Confidentiality

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.*

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(f) of the Act as it relates to a request for access to information and the information relates to matters affecting the security of council, councillors, council staff or council property and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) & (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other relevant documentation relating to this matter are to be withheld from the press and public.

Item: 119 **SS - Request for Access to information - Mr R Jarvie, Mrs P Jarvie, Mr L Haler and Mrs L Ness - (95496) CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason for Confidentiality

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.*

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act as it relates to access to information by Mr R Jarvie, Mrs P Jarvie, Mr L Haler and Mrs L Ness and the information is regarded as being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or reveal a trade secret and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) & (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other relevant documentation relating to this matter are to be withheld from the press and public.

Item: 120 IS - Tenders for the Hire of Plant - (79344) CONFIDENTIAL

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is ***CONFIDENTIAL*** *in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.*

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(c) of the Act as it relates to details concerning tenders for the supply of goods and/or services to Council and it is considered that the release of the information would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person or organisation with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) & (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other relevant documentation relating to this matter are to be withheld from the press and public.

ordinary

section 5

reports of committees

SECTION 5 - Reports of Committees

ROC - Community Planning Advisory Committee Minutes - 16 March 2006 - (91368)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Planning Committee held in Council Committee Rooms, Windsor, on Tuesday, 30 May 2006, commencing at 9:30am.

Present:	Councillor Rex Stubbs Councillor Barry Calvert Ms Faith Christie Ms Tracey Leahy Ms Lyn Saville Ms Sigrid Wilson Ms Angela Stanley Mr Nick Sabel
Apologies:	Ms Fiona Luckhurst-Khan
In Attendance:	Mr Michael Laing Ms Julie Sinclair (Minute Secretary)

REPORT:

RESOLVED on the motion of Ms Tracey Leahy and seconded by Ms Faith Christie that the apology be accepted.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Calvert and seconded by Ms Faith Christie that the Minutes of the Community Planning Committee held on the 10 November 2005, be confirmed.

Item: 1 Hawkesbury Community Plan 2005 - Update

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That:

1. The Committee Chairperson write to thank the Hawkesbury Sports Council for its comments with regard to the Hawkesbury Community Plan 2005.

2. The Chairperson advise the Hawkesbury Sports Council that it is a requirement of the Community and Social Planning Regulation, that mandated population groups (and not individual organisations) require to be consulted in the development of community and social plans.

3. The Chairperson advise the Hawkesbury Sports Council that Council's Management Plan and Annual Report currently includes the role of the Hawkesbury Sports Council (i.e, it is shown as a Committee in which Council has a financial interest).

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Ms Tracey Leahy, seconded by Ms Sigrid Wilson.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The Committee Chairperson write to thank the Hawkesbury Sports Council for its comments with regard to the Hawkesbury Community Plan 2005.
2. The Chairperson advise the Hawkesbury Sports Council that it is a requirement of the Community and Social Planning Regulation, that mandated population groups (and not individual organisations) require to be consulted in the development of community and social plans.
3. The Chairperson advise the Hawkesbury Sports Council that Council's Management Plan and Annual Report currently includes the role of the Hawkesbury Sports Council (i.e, it is shown as a Committee in which Council has a financial interest).

Item: 2 Hawkesbury Futures Demographic Study - Update

DISCUSSION:

- Mr Laing to speak with the Director of City Planning with regards to the possible overlapping of projects.
- The main areas and associated costs that would be used within the software provided by Census Applications Pty Ltd, would be:

- Population Projections	$6,000.00
- Dwelling Projections	$3,000.00
- Location of Population	$3,000.00
- Social Profile	$2,500.00
- Dwelling Types	$2,000.00
- Employment & Workforce	$5,500.00
- Location	$3,000.00
- Infrastructure Requirements	$4,000.00
- Consultations/Staff Survey	$2,200.00
Total:	**$31,200.00**

- I.D. Consultants quoted an upfront fee amount of $25,000.00, and then required an annual subscription amount of $5000.00. They further advised that the software would require updating by 2007, which would be for the amount of $15,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That:

1. Council staff organise to meet with the preferred consultant and discuss what can be achieved within the current budget of $10,000.00, and their willingness to work with Council staff on analysing and collating the study.

2. Council purchase the relevant software to undertake some aspects of the study 'in-house'.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Calvert, seconded by Ms Lyn Saville.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council staff organise to meet with the preferred consultant and discuss what can be achieved within the current budget of $10,000.00, and their willingness to work with Council staff on analysing and collating the study.

2. Council purchase the relevant software to undertake some aspects of the study 'in-house'.

3. Council staff review and provide to Committee members any available regional data, to obtain comparisons between LGAs.

Item: 3 Comments on Social Impact Assessments (SIA's) for Gaming Machines

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DISCUSSION:

- Council has written to the NSW Department of Gaming & Racing with regards to social impacts, issues, and other concern including:
  - increased gambling addiction;
  - increased poverty;
  - increased pressure on families (particularly children);
  - increased incidents of homelessness, domestic violence, and an increased need for counselling/support services (family, youth and financial).

  To date, Council has not received a response on the outcome of a submission for 30 (thirty) poker machines in North Richmond.

- Committee members were informed that Council’s role is limited to ‘comment only’ with regards to SIA’s, and does not have any role/responsibility for determining the outcomes of applications.

- Should Council agree to the Community Planning Advisory Committee reviewing SIA’s, the Committee may be required to convene a special meeting or provide comments via email, to address the SIA’s received.

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That:

1. Hawkesbury City Council staff adopt the procedure of referring requests for comments on SIA's for “Category 2” Applications to the Liquor Administration Board (NSW Dept. Gaming & Racing), for Gaming Machines applications in the Hawkesbury area to Council's Community Planning Committee.

2. Council staff (through their social planning processes), apply their statistical data, local knowledge, community connections, consultation with disadvantaged groups and the general community to assessing and commenting on SIA's for “Category 2 Applications” to the Liquor Administration Board (NSW Dept. Gaming & Racing), for Gaming Machines applications in the Hawkesbury area in consultation with Council's Community Planning Committee.

3. Council's Community Planning Advisory Committee develop procedures for addressing requests for comments on SIA's for “Category 2 Applications” to the Liquor Administration Board (NSW Dept. Gaming & Racing) for Gaming Machine applications in the Hawkesbury area.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Calvert, seconded by Ms Lyn Saville.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Hawkesbury City Council staff adopt the procedure of referring requests for comments on SIA's for “Category 2” Applications to the Liquor Administration Board (NSW Dept. Gaming & Racing), for Gaming Machines applications in the Hawkesbury area to Council's Community Planning Committee.

2. Council staff (through their social planning processes), apply their statistical data, local knowledge, community connections, consultation with disadvantaged groups and the general community to assessing and commenting on SIA's for “Category 2 Applications” to the Liquor Administration Board (NSW Dept. Gaming & Racing), for Gaming Machines applications in the Hawkesbury area in consultation with Council's Community Planning Committee.

3. Council's Community Planning Advisory Committee develop procedures for addressing requests for comments on SIA's for “Category 2 Applications” to the Liquor Administration Board (NSW Dept. Gaming & Racing) for Gaming Machine applications in the Hawkesbury area.

4. The Committee recommend to Council to write to the Minister of Local Government, requesting that consideration be given with regards to Council being more actively involved in the final outcomes of SIA applications submitted to the NSW Department of Gaming and Racing, for determination.

Item: 4 General Business

DISCUSSION:

- Hawkesbury District Health Services have commenced a community exercise program - ‘Heart Moves’.
- A state-wide campaign has been launched to help assist/reduce Child Obesity. Ms Lyn Saville advised that this campaign is scheduled to commence within the Hawkesbury, on 20 March 2006.

The meeting terminated at 10:18am.

2006 Committee Meeting Dates

Community Planning Advisory Committee .... Thursday, 11 May 2006 at 9:30am

Community Planning Advisory Committee ....Thursday, 3 August 2006 at 9:30am

Community Planning Advisory Committee .... Thursday, 9 November 2006 at 9:30am

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

ROC - Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee Minutes - 1 May 2006 - (98212, 95494)

The meeting commenced at 4.35pm in the Meeting Room, Peppercorn Place.

Present:	Councillor Leigh Williams - (Chairperson) Councillor Dianne Finch Jenni Bousfield Alan Aldrich Mark Newton Peter Rukin Robert Bosshard Jane McCormick Andrew Docking Chris Cameron Doug Bathersby
Apologies:	RTA Representative
In Attendance:	Joseph Litwin (Executive Officer)

REPORT:

RESOLVED on the motion of Chris Cameron and seconded by Alan Aldrich that the apologies be accepted.

Section 1 - Confirmation of Minutes

1. Matters arising from Previous Minutes

It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2006 had not been included in Business Papers. Executive Manager Community Partnership apologised for this oversight and advised that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2006 would be reported to Council on 9 May 2006.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED on the motion of Peter Rukin and seconded by Andrew Docking the Minutes of the Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee held on 20 March 2006 be confirmed.

Section 2 - Reports for Determination

Item 1 – Committees of Council – Formation and Committee Procedures

Discussion

- Clarification sought on the role of the Committee. The Executive Officer advised that the Committees role was defined by its constitution and that its primary responsibility was the preparation of a City-wide mobility access plan.

- Clarification sought on the authority and powers of the Committee. The Chair advised that the Committees minutes were required to be reported to Council and that any recommendation made by the Committee would be noted by Council. Should the committee seek to have an issue or motion formally considered by Council, then this would be by way of the Councillor representative placing a Notice of Motion before Council. The Executive Officer advised that the Committee could not request Council staff to prepare Council reports as this delegation lay with the General Manager.

RESOLVED on the motion of Andrew Docking and seconded by Doug Bathersby that:

1. The information be received.
2. The Committee to note that the business of the Committee will be conducted in accordance with the practice guidelines detailed in this Report.

Item 2 – Procedures for Committee Members to raise operational issues.

Discussion.

- Clarification sought as to the purpose of the reporting template (Attachment 1). EO advised that the draft template was developed following the request of the committee at its March 20 meeting, for a process to be developed to allow committee members to raise operational issues.

RESOLVED on the motion of Dianne Finch and seconded by Chris Cameron that:

1. The information be received.
2. The Committee adopt the proposed "Notification of Operational Issue" template for the reporting of operational issues.
3. The Committee adopt the suggested procedure outlined in the Report for operational issues to be received and referred to Council.

Item 3 – Draft Terms of Reference for the development of the Hawkesbury Mobility Access Plan

Discussion.

- Clarification sought as to the funding available for the drafting of the Access Plan. There was also some discussion as to the possible format and role of the Committee in relation to the preparation of the Plan.

RESOLVED on the motion of Alan Aldrich and seconded by Dianne Finch that:

1. The Committee endorse the draft terms of reference for the production of the *Hawkesbury Access Mobility Plan.*
2. The endorsed Terms of Reference be referred to Council for their consideration and adoption

Item 4 – Funding Allocation – Physical Access Black Spots

RESOLVED on the motion of Doug Bathersby and seconded by Mark Newton that:

1. The information be received.
2. The request for Council to establish a quarantined budget allocation of $50,000 to address physical access black spots within the City of Hawkesbury be withdrawn.

Section 3 - General Business

- It was agreed that following the June 5 Meeting of the Committee, future meetings would be held on the second Monday of each month.

- Doug Bathersby requested that information be provided to the Committee as to the status of the $100,000 budget allocation for Cycleways for the 05/06 financial year.

- Doug Bathersby requested information as to whether Council had allocated $50,000 in the 06-07 financial estimates as its contribution to Cycleway funding. The EO advised that these funds had been included in the draft budget for Council's consideration.

- Doug Bathersby advised the committee of works to be undertaken by the RTA to link the McGrath's Hill cycleway with Windsor by a low level pedestrian/cycleway bridge over South Creek.

- Alan Aldrich queried whether Council was requiring the RTA to abide by agreement in relation to maximum crossfalls for footpaths and cycleways. EO advised that he would seek advice from the Manager Design and Mapping

Next Meeting – to be held at 4.30 pm on Monday the 5th June , 2006 at The Meeting Room Peppercorn Place, 320 George St. WINDSOR.

The Meeting closed at 5.50pm

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

ordinary

meeting

end of
business
paper

This business paper has been produced electronically to reduce costs, improve efficiency and reduce the use of paper. Internal control systems ensure it is an accurate reproduction of Council's official copy of the business paper.