

The following document is the minutes of the Council and Committee Meetings held on Thursday, 24 April 2002. These minutes are subject to confirmation as to their accuracy at the next meeting to be held on 9 May 2002 and therefore subject to change.
Please refer to the minutes of the meeting of 9 May 2002 for confirmation.



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
(FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE)
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR
24 APRIL 2002

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COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

(FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE)

24 APRIL 2002

Present: Councillors J C Bonfield (Mayor), P J Howe, C M McKimm, I J Ovens, W R Palmer, K D Rhoades, J Strom (Deputy Mayor), W A Wood.

Staff: General Manager, Director of Economic and Community Enterprises, Director of Planning, Environment and Development, Acting Director of Finance and Administration, Acting Director of Engineering, City Treasurer and Executive Assistant.

The meeting commenced at 6.37pm with the Mayor in the chair.

APOLOGY

- 42 RESOLVED** (Strom/Howe) that an apology received from Cr Williams for absence be received and leave be granted for the current meeting of Council.

PUBLIC FORUM

The following persons addressed the meeting:

Speaker
Wally Sims for Coffs Harbour
Bicycle User Group

Matter
Bicycle facilities in Coffs Harbour and
plans for future facilities

Ian Finn

North Boambee Valley

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

- 43** **RESOLVED** (Strom/McKimm) that the Ordinary Meeting of Council be adjourned and Council now resolve into the Finance and Administration Committee meeting, the time being 6.38pm.

The Mayor invited Councillor Ovens to chair the Finance and Administration Committee.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT REPORTS

F19 KENDELL AIRLINES - LANDING CHARGES

Abandonment of \$45,004.37 in landing charges.

- F14** **RECOMMENDED** (Rhoades/Strom) that the amount of \$45,004.37 outstanding for Kendell Airlines be abandoned and treated as an expense of the Coffs Harbour Regional Airport Program.

F20 MONTHLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2002

To report on the estimated budget position as at 31 March 2002.

- F15** **RECOMMENDED** (Rhoades/Bonfield):
1. That the budget variations of \$952,000 surplus in the Water Account be adopted.
 2. That the revised trading operation surplus of \$797,700 for the Park Beach and Sawtell Reserve Caravan Parks be noted and the budget allocation for the relocated Ocean Parade in the Park Beach Caravan Park budget be increased to \$275,000.
 3. That the estimated budget position as at 31 March 2002 as follows, be noted:

cont'd

F20 Monthly Budget Review As At 31 March 2002 (cont'd)

	General Account Account \$	Water Account \$	Sewer \$
Original Budget	545,004 (D)	339,407 (D)	87,260 (D)
Approved Variations to 28 February 2002		20,000 (S)	443,763 (D)
People mover for Botanic Gardens	9,000 (D)		
Sails installation	26,000 (D)		
Fire Safety Review	30,000 (D)		
Bunker Cartoon Gallery	5,500 (D)		
Increase NSW Fire Brigades contribution	1,700 (D)		
Adjust Financial Assistance Grant	6,888 (D)		
Adjust Englands Park Tennis Club loan	13,551 (S)		
Adjust long term Debtor repayments	37,272 (S)		
Increase budget estimate for Building income	75,000 (S)		
Further funding for Rural Fire Service	5,932 (D)		
Matching funding for Bus Stop works	5,650 (D)		
Increase budget estimate for Building income	37,000 (S)		
Additional Rating income	100,500 (S)		
Increase Noxious Weed Grant funds	<u>14,886 (S)</u>		
	187,539 (S)		
Recommended variations for March 2002	Nil	952,000 (S)	Nil
Estimated result 2001/02 as at March 2002	<u>357,465 (D)</u>	<u>632,593 (S)</u>	<u>429,124 (D)</u>

Cr Ovens requested that it be placed on record that he does not support the recommendation on the treatment of shortfall in revenue from the airport.

F21 OUTSTANDING REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION

To provide Council with an update of requests for reports and previous resolutions of Council awaiting implementation.

F16 RECOMMENDED (Rhoades/McKimm) that the report be noted.

F22 BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS

To list Council's Bank Balances and Investments as at 28 February 2002.

- F17 RECOMMENDED** (Rhoades/Strom) that the Bank Balances and Investments totalling \$134,782,597 as at 28 February 2002 be noted.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT REPORTS

29 HOGBIN DRIVE WIDENING

To report on proposed works to be undertaken for the next stage of the Hogbin Drive widening project.

- F18 RECOMMENDED** (Rhoades/Howe) that Council approve plans for Stage 2 Hogbin Drive widening consisting of the construction of northbound overtaking lane between Boambee Creek and Stadium Drive and minor works on Stadium Drive to complete access to Advocate Park.

30 WATER RESTRICTIONS

To recommend to Council that water restrictions be eased to Level 2 from Saturday 27 April, 2002.

This item was dealt with at the commencement of the Economic and Community Enterprises Committee meeting held on 24 April 2002.

CONCLUSION OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Chairman advised that the business of the Finance and Administration Committee was concluded and invited the Mayor to resume the chair.

The Mayor resumed chairmanship of the meeting at 6.48pm.

OPEN COUNCIL

The Mayor requested a motion to close the Committee meeting and move into Open Council.

- F19** **RECOMMENDED** (Strom/McKimm) that the Committee now move into Open Council.

ADOPTION OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- 44** **RESOLVED** (Howe/McKimm) that the recommendations of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting be received and adopted.

MATTERS OF AN URGENT NATURE

Future development of North Boambee Valley

Cr Rhoades enquired if Council has a policy that states we are not proactive in supporting development west of the proposed bypass options?

The General Manager advised the meeting that a workshop for Councillors will be held on 8 May to work through some of the issues and within 4 to 6 weeks Council will be in a better position to consider the matter.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

1. Condition of Vernon Street

Cr Ovens raised the matter of the unsatisfactory state of the footpath in Vernon Street and requested the pavement be inspected to find a solution to the problem of removing discarded chewing gum from the surface. Cr Ovens enquired if staff had contacted North Sydney Council to enquire about the anti-litter laws in force there.

The Acting Director of Engineering responded that several different methods had been tried to remove the gum but resulted in possible damage to the surface of the footpath. Further investigations will be carried out to find a solution.

Questions without Notice (cont'd)

2. Signage Grant from the Roads and Traffic Authority

Cr Ovens commented on a grant Council had received from the RTA for approximately \$200,000 for signage and enquired if Council could use the unspent portion of the grant for other signage work throughout the City.

The Survey and Design Manager advised that the \$200,000 was provided by the RTA to cover the costs associated with implementing the 50kph speed zone programme. Not all of the grant provided by the RTA was needed for the programme. A proposal will be put to the RTA to use the excess funds for signage works in the CBD areas.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Taxi Rank in Vernon Street

Cr Palmer enquired if the taxi rank presently located in Vernon Street, Coffs Harbour is a permanent arrangement and if it is, could the lighting be improved as at night the area is quite dark and isolated.

The Survey and Design Manager advised that the Vernon Street taxi rank was intended as a temporary arrangement until Council negotiates and consults all stakeholders involved in a permanent solution to the taxi rank problem in the CBD.

2. Seminar – Community Relations Commission

Cr Wood reported to the meeting on a seminar he had attended in Sydney on 15-16 April as a guest of the Community Relations Commission. The Chairman of the Commission has written to councils throughout New South Wales proposing that ten regional community advisory committees be established. It is proposed to launch a Regional Community Advisory Committee for the North Coast, covering the area from Greater Taree to Tweed Heads, on 30 May in Coffs Harbour.

3. Seminar – Access for Everyone

Cr Wood reported on a seminar he had chaired on 16 and 17 April which was organised by Council's Access Committee. The seminar was titled "Access for Everyone" and included several outstanding speakers from Standards Australia and PlanningNSW and other organisations. It was intended as a public awareness seminar and was well attended by the public and architects and builders.

General Business (cont'd)

4. Timetables in Bus Shelters

Cr Strom enquired why the new bus shelters do not have timetables installed in them for the information of users.

The Survey and Design Manager advised that it is the responsibility of the bus companies. Enquiries will be made to determine if all shelters will be provided with timetables.

5. Bus Service to the Education Campus

Cr Strom advised the Department of Transport has prevented King Brothers from providing a bus service to the Education Campus on Hogbin Drive. Since the opening of the new hospital, there has been a route realignment and only Sawtell buses service the Campus. This has reduced the number of buses going to the Campus by half and students are up to 40 minutes late for classes. Can Council write a letter to the Department of Transport expressing concern.

The General Manager responded that a letter would be written to the Department of Transport.

6. Youth Fundraising Support Group

Cr Strom advised that the Masonic Lodge Youth Fundraising Support Group are running a car raffle throughout the region and have approached Council for permission to display a car and sell tickets in the City Square. Cr Strom raised the possibility of the temporarily use of a carpark outside the St George Bank in High Street to display a vehicle and sell tickets nearby from the pavement.

The General Manager advised that the matter would be investigated and Councillors advised of the outcome.

7. North Coast Water

Cr Bonfield advised that she and Cr Palmer are members of North Coast Water and had attended a special meeting to consider tenders for work associated with the construction of the pipeline between Coffs Harbour and Coutts Crossing. Two tenders were looked at, one for the pipes and fittings and the other for the supply of mainline valves.

With regard to the construction of the project, it was stated local companies could tender for the five separable portions of construction. Cr Bonfield and Cr Palmer were especially interested to see that local companies were not overlooked. There was ample opportunity for local companies to express an interest, one did but failed to meet the qualifications of the tender requirements. There will still be an opportunity for local companies to obtain subcontracting work.

General Business (cont'd)

8. Continuation of work on City Centre Revitalisation

Cr Ovens advised that work done on the CBD before Christmas was quite exceptional but now seems to have come to a standstill. The work on the area from outside Coffs Hotel in West High Street along to Moonee Street is yet to be carried out. He requested a report on the progress of the work.

The General Manager responded that the design for West High Street had been finalised, expressions of interest called for and two firms will submit tenders for the works. This will be resolved within the next month and work should commence in June. Park Avenue has been designed and is ready to be commenced.

9. Traffic – Pacific Highway and High Street

Cr Howe enquired about traffic approaching the intersection from the east at the Pacific Highway and High Street, Coffs Harbour, wishing to continue straight ahead across the intersection but being blocked by motorists waiting to turn right as there is no lane designated for straight through traffic and enquired if motorists in the lefthand lane could be permitted to either go straight ahead or turn left.

The Survey and Design Manager responded that, as part of the design, it was recognised that the congestion level in West High Street would increase with the changes to traffic. The lanes on either side of the intersection do not align and if motorists were permitted to go straight ahead from the lefthand lane, they would have to drift considerably across the intersection to align themselves with the entry to High Street. The traffic arrangements at the intersection will be monitored.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Confirmed: 9 May 2002

Cr J Bonfield
Mayor