

The following document is the minutes of the Council and Committee meetings held on 4 September 2003. These minutes are subject to confirmation as to their accuracy at the next meeting to be held on 18 September 2003 and therefore subject to change. Please refer to minutes of 18 September 2003 for confirmation.



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
(CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE)
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR
4 SEPTEMBER 2003

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COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
(CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE)
4 SEPTEMBER 2003

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), A D Williams and W A Wood.

Staff: General Manager, Acting Director of City Business Units, Director of Planning, Environment & Development, Director of Corporate Services, Director of City Services, City Treasurer, Administration Manager and Executive Assistant.

The meeting commenced at 7.38pm with the Mayor in the chair.

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

174 RESOLVED (Wood/Bonfield) that the Ordinary Meeting of Council be adjourned and Council now resolve into the Corporate Services Committee meeting.

The Mayor invited Councillor Ovens to chair the Corporate Services Committee.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM IN NEW SOUTH WALES

To develop a Coffs Harbour City Council position on Structural Reform.

F99 RECOMMENDED (Wood/Bonfield):

1. That Coffs Harbour City Council supports the conduct of a regional review to assess and report on an appropriate model for local government in the region.
2. That until that review is complete, Coffs Harbour City Council not support an amalgamation with an adjoining or nearby Shire, given its current size and performance.
3. That Council actively explore opportunities for resource sharing with regional councils.

16 HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUES REPORT

To provide Council with statistical information regarding overtime, staff costs, workers compensation, accrued leave and sick leave for the April to June 2003 quarter.

F100 RECOMMENDED (Strom/Williams):

1. That Council notes the level of overtime, staff costs, workers compensation, accrued leave and sick leave for the June 2003 quarter.
2. That Council continues to monitor overtime, staff costs, workers compensation, accrued leave and sick leave with a view to minimising costs and impacts on Council's services.

17 ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY PROJECTS REPORT

To provide Council with a status report on the projects funded under the Environmental Levy Program.

F101 RECOMMENDED (Howe/McKimm):

1. That Council notes the status of Environmental Levy Projects as at 30 June 2003 as outlined in the report.
2. That Council note the financial summary of Environmental Levy Projects as at 30 June 2003 as outlined in attachment 1 to the General Manager's Report.
3. That the compost toilet held in stock be erected at Nana Glen Equestrian Centre.
4. That Council continues to monitor the Environmental Levy Program to ensure the earliest completion of projects.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORTS

F55 COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES JANUARY 2003 TO JUNE 2003

To report to Council on those expenses that Councillors have chosen to claim for the period January to June 2003.

F102 RECOMMENDED (McKimm/Howe) that the information be noted.

F56 PURCHASE OF STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN)

To seek Council approval for the replacement of eight servers, a new backup solution and the purchase of a Storage Area Network (SAN).

F103 RECOMMENDED (Wood/Howe) that:

1. Council endorses the proposal to purchase a Storage Area Network and replace the backup system and eight servers from Computer Systems Australia and HP Australia.
2. An internal loan be established from reserves and funded from the Computer Lease Repayment vote in the current management plan.

Cr McKimm and Cr Williams left the Chamber at 7.48 and returned 5 minutes later.

F57 LOAN REQUEST - ENGLANDS PARK TENNIS CLUB

Englands Park Tennis Club is seeking a loan of \$10,000.

F104 RECOMMENDED (Strom/Howe) that:

1. A loan of up to \$12,000 be made to the Englands Park Tennis Club on the following terms and conditions.
2. The principal be repaid over a term up to 5 years as agreed, at an interest rate of 6% per annum.
3. Repayments to be made by amending the current bank transfer in relation to the current loan.
4. The new loan will commence on or near the date the first funds are made available.

F58 OUTSTANDING REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION

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

F105 RECOMMENDED (Strom/Wood) that the reported be noted.

F59 BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 JULY 2003

To list Council's Bank Balances and Investments as at 31 July 2003.

F106 RECOMMENDED (Strom/McKimm) that the Bank Balances and Investments totalling one hundred and twenty million, sixty-nine thousand, three hundred and forty-two dollars (\$120,069,342) as at 31 July 2003 be noted.

CITY BUSINESS UNITS DEPARTMENT REPORT

E60 ACQUISITION OF EASEMENT FOR RE-USE WATER PIPELINE AND WATER - 70 BRUXNER PARK ROAD, KORORA

Report seeking Council approval for the acquisition of an easement for a re-use pipeline and water main pipeline through privately owned property on Bruxner Park Road, Korora.

F107 RECOMMENDED (Howe/Wood):

1. That Council proceed to acquire an easement 5 metres wide for a reuse water main and a water main over Lot 1 DP 543614, 70 Bruxner Park Road, Korora as shown approximately on the plan attached to this report.
2. That Council pay the amount as stated in the confidential attachment exclusive of GST as compensation to the owner of the property for the easement acquisition.
3. That Council provide a single connection to the re-use main at no cost provided the owner of the property agrees to Council's standard conditions of use.
4. That Council be responsible for all costs associated with the matter.
5. That all necessary documents associated with the acquisition of the easement be executed under the Common Seal of Council.

CONCLUSION OF CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

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

The Mayor resumed chairmanship of the meeting at 7.57pm.

OPEN COUNCIL

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

F108 RECOMMENDED (Strom/McKimm) that the Committee now move into Open Council.

ADOPTION OF CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

- 175** **RESOLVED** (Howe/McKimm) that the recommendations of the Corporate Services Committee meeting be received and adopted.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- 176** **RESOLVED** (Strom/Howe) that Cr McKimm be granted leave of absence from Council from 19 September to 10 October and Cr Ovens be granted leave of absence from Council's meetings on 18 September 2003.

MATTERS OF AN URGENT NATURE

Federal Government Funding Cuts to Coastal Environmental Programs

Cr Williams gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting of Council:

"That Council write to the Local Member, Hon Luke Hartsuyker MP and the Federal Government expressing deep concern at the cutting of funding for the Clean Seas Initiative and to the Coastal Environmental Initiatives."

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Increase in Rates as a result of the Property Boom

Cr Strom advised she had again received representations from an older Sawtell resident regarding the high cost of rates in Sawtell resulting from increased property values and enquired if these residents could continue living in their homes and deferring their rates.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that Council does provide relief for persons in that category. A report will be prepared for Council detailing options available to ratepayers in this position.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Manufacturing Paper from Banana Trash

Cr Palmer advised of a company in Queensland making paper from banana trash and providing fertilizer and compost as a by-product and enquired, as Council will shortly be calling for tenders for a new waste facility, information be obtained to ascertain if the same enterprise could be carried out in Coffs Harbour.

2. Rate Pegging - Information to Residents

Cr Ovens requested a report on options available, through the media, of informing residents on how rate pegging works, the City's operations and what drives the City budget.

3. Hogbin Drive Bridge over Coffs Creek

Cr Ovens requested a report be prepared on funding required to construct the bridge over Coffs Creek to complete Hogbin Drive and reasons why the estimated cost has escalated from \$6m to \$13m.

Cr Rhoades expressed concern that the State Government has not responded to requests for funding for the bridge and requested the report also detail other means of funding the completion of Hogbin Drive.

The Director of City Services advised that a report will be prepared.

4. Public Liability Insurance at the Yacht Club

Cr Ovens advised that the Yacht Club is experiencing difficulties meeting the Council's and the State Government's requirements regarding insurance for the land in front of the Yacht Club.

The General Manager advised negotiations are continuing with the Yacht Club.

5. Sawtell-Toormina Sport and Recreation Club

Cr Ovens requested Council invite representatives of the Sawtell Toormina Sport and Recreation Club to a Councillor briefing session to provide an update of the Club's performance during the time they have been operating the club.

The Mayor agreed it would be beneficial.

General Business (cont'd)

6. Development Application 1006/03 - Recreation Facility Laserball and Paintball - Bonville

Cr Williams referred to the plans submitted for the Laserball and Paintball facility and the possible detrimental effect on Koala habitat. Cr Williams requested that it be placed on record, his concerns with the development.

The Director of Planning Environment and Development advised that the approved plan originally lodged by the applicant's consultants did not show the boundary of the property in relation to the koala habitat whereas the second plan submitted clearly shows the boundary and the layout of the paintball field as being in the cleared area. The applicant will be requested to submit this second plan to Council for approval.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8.32pm

Confirmed: 18 September 2003

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Cr J Bonfield