



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR
5 FEBRUARY 2004

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COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

5 FEBRUARY 2004

Present: Councillors J C Bonfield (Mayor), P J Howe, I J Ovens, W R Palmer, J Strom (Deputy Mayor), A D Williams and W A Wood.

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

Leave of Absence: Cr McKimm

The meeting commenced at 5.00pm with the Mayor, Cr J C Bonfield in the chair.

The Mayor advised that due to the small number of items on both the City Business Units Committee and the Corporate Services Committee agendas, both meetings would be combined and dealt with in an Ordinary meeting of Council.

APOLOGY

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

PUBLIC FORUM

The following person addressed the meeting:

Shenaz Salindera Youth Issues

CITY BUSINESS UNITS DEPARTMENT REPORT

B4 CURRENT STATUS OF THE REGIONAL SKATEPARK PROJECT

To report on the current status of the Regional Skatepark Project.

- 18 RESOLVED** (Wood/Howe) that Council note the current situation with respect to the development of a Regional Skatepark and a further report be brought back to Council when the results of the application for Capital Assistance funding is known.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

1 2004/2005 MANAGEMENT PLAN - PROJECT SCHEDULE

To seek approval for a project schedule to develop Council's Management Plan for the 2004/2005 financial year. This report recommends that a Draft Management Plan be scheduled for public exhibition in May/June, 2004.

- 19 RESOLVED** (Strom/Howe):
1. That the following project schedule for developing Council's 2004/2005 Management Plan, be adopted.

Meeting/Activity	Date	Councillor Attendance
Councillor workshop to review strategic priorities	Tuesday 10 February 2004	Yes
Staff workshops	Mon 23 to Fri 27 February 2004	As required
Adopt 1 st Draft for Public Exhibition	6 May 2004	Yes
Public Exhibition Period	8 May – 4 June 2004	N/a
Consultations with facility management committees	May 2004	Yes
Consideration of Submissions	7 – 17 June 2004.	As required
Adopt Final Management Plan	17 June 2004.	Yes

2. That Councillors note their attendance is requested at the meetings, as outlined in the schedule contained within the report, to develop Council's 2004/2005 Management Plan.
3. That directors and senior staff be available for meetings with members of the public to inform them of issues associated with the 2004/2005 Management Plan, during the public exhibition phase of the Draft Plan.

cont'd

1 2004/2005 Management Plan - Project Schedule (cont'd)

4. That the key issues in the Draft 2004/2005 Management Plan be highlighted in a summary information leaflet and a newspaper advertising feature to be prepared and distributed during the public exhibition phase of the Draft Management Plan.
5. That the Environmental Working Group's recommended list of projects to be funded from the 2003/2004 Environmental Levy be submitted for consideration and adoption by Council by 18 March 2004.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORTS

F6 FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NSW HEALTH SYSTEM - iPART OF NSW

To advise of a request by Kempsey Shire Council to the members of the Mid North Coast Group of Councils to support a proposal to reform funding arrangements for the NSW Health System as recommended by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (iPart).

20 RESOLVED (Wood/Palmer:

1. That Coffs Harbour City Council support the request of Kempsey Shire Council for the reform of Funding Arrangements for the NSW Health System as proposed by iPart of NSW.
2. That letters of support be forwarded to Kempsey Shire Council, Local Government Shires Association, Country Mayors Association and the local member.

F7 OUTSTANDING REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION

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

21 RESOLVED (Strom/Howe) that the report be noted.

F8 BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2003

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

- 22 RESOLVED** (Strom/Palmer) that the Bank Balances and Investments totalling one hundred and sixteen million, two hundred and sixty-four thousand, nine hundred and twenty-one dollars (\$116,264,921) as at 31 December 2003 be noted.

CITY BUSINESS UNITS DEPARTMENT REPORT

B5 ACQUISITION OF EASEMENT AT LOT 2 DP 749151 - SAFETY BEACH ROAD, SAFETY BEACH FOR SEWER PIPELINE

Report seeking Council approval for the acquisition of an easement for a sewer pipeline through privately owned property at Lot 2 DP 749151, Safety Beach Road, Safety Beach.

- 23 RESOLVED** (Howe/Palmer):
1. That Council proceed to acquire an easement 3 metres wide and variable for a sewer pipeline over Lot 2 DP 749151, Safety Beach Road, Safety Beach as shown approximately on the plan attached to the 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 be responsible for all costs associated with the matter.
 4. That all necessary documents associated with the acquisition of the easement be executed under the Common Seal of Council.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- 24 RESOLVED** (Strom/Palmer) that Cr McKimm be granted leave of absence for Council meetings on 19 February as she will be out of the city.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

1. Shade Structure for the Cenotaph

Cr Wood requested an update on the provision of shade shelters for the Cenotaph in Coffs Harbour.

The Director of City Business Units advised negotiations have taken place with the Coffs Harbour Ex-Services Sub-branch to utilise existing shade shelters which will be erected and dismantled by the members of the Sub-branch when needed.

2. Grouping of Candidates at Local Government Elections

Cr Wood advised that, after the Information Session held for the prospective Councillors on 2 February, there appeared to be confusion regarding the deadline for registering groups of candidates for the forthcoming elections.

The General Manager clarified the matter by advising that 'parties' are required to be registered six months before an election but 'groups' can be registered at any time during the nomination period. Any queries on the elections should be directed to the Returning Officer, Mr Paul Wittman, who will be located at the Parklea Centre, 13-15 Park Ave, from 9 February.

3. Holding Council Meetings when Agendas are minimal

Cr Ovens commented on the small amount of business on the agendas for the meetings being held on 5 February and enquired if there is a statutory obligation to hold Council meetings on the advertised dates.

The General Manager advised it is Council's policy to hold meetings on the advertised dates.

4. Request to Acquire Unused Lane in the Park Beach Area

Cr Palmer advised he had been approached by a Park Beach holiday unit owner concerned about problems with vandalism, intruders etc to an unused lane behind his property. The owner enquired if the unused lane could be closed or the owners given the opportunity to purchase the land.

The Director of City Business Units explained there is a procedure to follow, Council would have to agree to the closure or sale and property owners along the lane would all have to agree to purchase the land from Council.

Questions Without Notice (cont'd)

5. Availability of Tax File Numbers to residents of the City

Cr Strom expressed concern that it is not possible for residents of the City to acquire a tax file number as the closest Australian Taxation Office is located in Newcastle.

Discussion was held as to the various options available for obtaining a tax file number.

6. Rotary International - 100th Anniversary

Cr Strom tabled a letter from the Daybreak Rotary Club of Coffs Harbour advising that the 100th Anniversary of Rotary International will occur on 23 February 2005. To honour the occasion, the Club would like to give the community a lasting memorial and suggested the Rotary Club seek Council's approval to carry out a suitable planting of trees.

The Director of City Business Units will report back to Council.

7. Upgrade of Orara Hall

Cr Strom enquired how Council can assist the residents in their efforts to upgrade the Orara Hall.

The General Manager advised Council has agreed to waive the development application fees in accordance with Council policy.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Regional Mid North Coast Development Board

Cr Strom advised that she had attended a recent meeting of the Board and wished to convey the Board's praise of Council's Economic Development Unit Manager, Lesley Schoer for her assistance to the Board.

2. Operation of Caravan Parks over the Holiday Season

Cr Palmer commended Council's Caravan Parks and State Park Manager, Geoff Firkin, on the successful operation of the parks over the holiday season and suggested a tour of the parks by Councillors.

The Mayor agreed it would be useful for the incoming Councillors to have such a tour after the Local Government elections.

General Business (cont'd)

3. Urban Design Strategy

Cr Howe referred to a media release regarding the Urban Design Strategy and enquired if the Strategy will address the situation of pedestrian safety in the CBD and in particular, the Bray Street intersection and the area adjacent to the Plantation Hotel.

The Director of Planning Environment and Development advised that the Study's major push is to look at urban design issues in respect of the northern and southern gateways to the City. It will consider pedestrian safety but the Bray Street intersection is such a major issue, it may need to be dealt with separately. It is understood that the Director of City Services is pursuing this issue as a stand alone project.

4. Coramba - Tourist Classification

Cr Howe advised that Coramba business owners are still being asked to provide proof that their area should be designated a 'tourist' area and requested Council provide documentation.

The General Manager will look into the matter.

5. Poor appearance of Roundabouts, Median Strips and Verges on Pacific Highway South, Coffs Harbour

Cr Palmer enquired what progress is being made on requesting the RTA to improve the neglected appearance of roundabouts etc. on the Pacific Highway south of Coffs Harbour.

The City Parks Manager advised that Council is meeting with the RTA on 10 February to finalise the upgrade to those sections and arrange for Council to take over the ongoing maintenance under a contract agreement.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 6.08pm.

Confirmed: 19 February 2004

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Cr J C Bonfield
Mayor