

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of Council

Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers

On 10th October 2016

**CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE
COUNTY
COUNCIL**



BUSINESS PAPER

**FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS,
ON MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2016
COMMENCING AT 10:00 AM**

77 Fox Street
(PO Box 664)
Walgett NSW 2832

Telephone: (02) 68286116
Fax: (02) 68281608
admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au

AGENDA - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 10 October 2016

- 1. OATH OR AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS**
- 2. WELCOME**
- 3. APOLOGIES**
- 4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE GOVERNING BODY**
- 5. METHOD OF VOTING – ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON**
- 6. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON**
- 7. DESTRUCTION OF BALLOT PAPERS**
- 8. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
- 9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES for Meeting held Monday 22 August 2016**
- 10. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
- 11. REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN**
- 12. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**
- 13. REPORT OF THE SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER**
- 14. CONFIDENTIAL**
- 15. QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING**
- 16. NEXT MEETING - Monday 12 December 2016 at Gilgandra**
- 17. CLOSE**

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15. QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

16. CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 12 December 2016 at Gilgandra

17. CLOSE OF MEETING

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ITEM 1: OATH OR AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	Circular No 16-32 / 9 September 2016 / A511602
Previous Circular	16-30 <i>Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Act 2016</i>
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers
Contact	Council Governance 02 4428 4100 olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Oaths and affirmations of office to be taken at the first meeting

Oath or affirmation of office by councillors

What's new or changing

- As a result of the recent amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993*, councillors (including mayors) are now required to take an oath or affirmation of office. The prescribed words of the oath and affirmation are contained in the attachment to this Circular.
- Oaths or affirmations of office must be taken by each councillor at or before the first meeting of the council after being elected.

What this will mean for your council

- Each council will need to make arrangements for the oath or affirmation to be taken by each councillor at the first meeting of a newly-elected council or at a newly-elected councillor's first meeting following a by-election.
- Councillors should be made aware of this requirement prior to the first meeting of a newly-elected council or the newly-elected councillor's first meeting following a by-election.
- An oath or affirmation should be taken by each councillor as the first item of business for the meeting.
- The general manager must ensure that a record is kept of the taking of the oath or affirmation. This can be done by way of a signed statement containing the oath or affirmation or by recording the taking of the oath or affirmation by each councillor in the minutes of the council meeting.
- If the councillor is unable to attend the first council meeting, he or she may take the oath or affirmation of office at another location in front of the general manager.
- The oath or affirmation of office may also be taken before an Australian legal practitioner or a Justice of the Peace.
- The taking of the oath or affirmation outside a council meeting must be publically recorded by the council.
- Where an oath or affirmation is taken outside a council meeting, a council staff member should also be present to ensure that an accurate record can be kept by the council.

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 44 913 630 046

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Key points

- A councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath or affirmation of office, will not be entitled to attend council meetings until they do so and will be taken to be absent without leave.
- If a councillor is absent without leave for three consecutive ordinary council meetings their office is automatically declared vacant and a by-election must be held.

Where to go for further information

- For further information contact the Office of Local Government's Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100.



Tim Hurst
Acting Chief Executive

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

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**ITEM 4: ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL – FOLLOWING 2016
QUADRENNIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager

AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager

FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

This report provides a brief background to the method in which members of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council are elected by Constituent Councils.

Discussion (including issues and background):

The Local Government Act 1993, as amended, (LGA) empowers the Governor to establish County Councils by proclamation. The proclamation forms the basis of the constitution of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council vide Section 387 of the LGA.

A County Council must have a Governing Body which is responsible for managing the affairs of the County Council. The members of the Governing Body are elected from among the Councillors of the Constituent Councils in accordance with Section 390 of the LGA.

The functions of a County Council are set out in the proclamation and may comprise ‘any one or more of the functions of a council under’ the LGA with limited exceptions, including the power to make and levy an ordinary rate. The LGA applies to County Councils and members of County Councils in the same way as it applies to general purpose Councils and Councillors.

The method of the constitution of a County Council is no different to that of other Councils. Only the method of election of Councillors, and the particularity of the functions of the County Council, differentiates them from ordinary purpose Councils. The method of election is similar to collegiate voting and provides indirect election.

The role of a member of a County Council is the same as that of a Councillor as set out in Section 232 of the LGA which, because of Section 400 of the LGA, applies to members of a County Council.

Members of the Governing Body of the County Council represent the interests of the Constituent Council by which they are elected to the County Council.

Following the 2016 Quadrennial Local Government Election the following Councillors have been elected by their respective Constituent Councils to be members of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the four year term commencing September, 2016.

Coonamble Shire Council:

Clr Michael Webb

Clr Bill Fisher

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Gilgandra Shire Council:

Clr Douglas Batten

Clr Gregory Peart

Walgett Shire Council:

Clr Ian Woodcock

Clr Manuel Martinez

Warren Shire Council:

Clr Mark Beach

Clr Andrew Brewer

Warrumbungle Shire Council:

Clr Peter Shinton

Clr Ray Lewis

Relevant Reference Documents:

Local Government Act 1993 Chapter 12 Part 5 Sections 383/400AA

Local Government Act 1993 Chapter 10 Part 4 Sections

Local Government (General) regulation 2005 – Schedule 9

Stakeholders:

Council Members

Financial Implications:

Nil

Election of Members to the Governing Body of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council - Following 2016 Quadrennial Local Government Council Elections
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the General Manager's report with regards to the election of members to the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the period 2016/2020 be received and noted and the members elected congratulated on their appointment and letters of appreciation be forwarded to former members who were unsuccessful at the 2016 quadrennial elections.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

**ITEM 5: DETERMINATION OF METHOD OF VOTING FOR ELECTION OF
CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON BY MEMBERS**

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

This report is prepared to allow Council to determine the Method of Voting for the Election of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson by Members.

Discussion (including issues and background):

Schedule 9 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 sets out the process to be followed for the election of a Mayor and Deputy Chairperson by Members, including the methods of voting that may be determined by a resolution of Council. The methods of voting for the election of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, that Council may adopt are summarised below:

- Open Voting – this is by show of hands or similar means
- Preferential Ballot – as per its normal interpretation the ballot papers are to contain names of all candidates and Councillors mark their votes 1, 2, 3 and so on against the various names, so as to indicate their order of preference for all of the candidates.
- Ordinary ballot – this is the usual method adopted in New South Wales. Ballots are secret with only one (1) candidate's name written on a ballot paper.

Where there are two (2) candidates, the person with the most votes is elected. If the ballots for the two (2) candidates are tied, the one to be elected is to be chosen by lots, with the first name out being declared elected.

Where there are three (3) or more candidates, the person with the lowest number of votes is eliminated and the process started again until there are only two (2) candidates. The determination of the election would then proceed as if the two (2) were the only candidates. In the case of three (3) or more candidates where a tie occurs the one (1) to be excluded will be chosen by lot.

- Choosing by Lot – to choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes are written on similar slips of paper by the Returning Officer, the slips are folded by the Returning Officer so as to prevent the names being seen, the slips are mixed and one is drawn at random by the Returning Officer and the candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen, on the basis detailed above.

* **NOTE:** Ballot has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Schedule 9 "Election of Chairperson by Members" of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005.

Stakeholders:

Council Members

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Financial Implications:

Nil

Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council adopt the ordinary ballot method for the election of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

ITEM 6: ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR ENSURING ONE (1) YEAR

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager

AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager

FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

Section 391 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that each County Council must have a Chairperson elected in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Discussion (including issues and background):

The role of Chairperson is defined vide Section 391A as follows:

- To preside at meetings of the County Council;
- To exercise such other functions of the County Council as the County Council determines;

The Chairperson for the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is elected by the Members from among their own number. As per section 391 the appointment is for one (1) year only.

The procedures for election of Chairperson by Members under Schedule 9 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 are summarised below:

- The General Manager (or a person appointed by the General Manager) is the Returning Officer.
- A Member may be nominated without notice for election as Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
- The nomination is to be made in writing by two (2) or more Members (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer.
- The Returning Officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the Council meeting at which the election is to be held.
- Nomination papers have been enclosed with the business paper and may be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer either prior to or at the commencement of the Ordinary meeting.
- If only one (1) Member is nominated, that Member is elected.
- If more than one (1) Member is nominated then the election will proceed in accordance with the method of voting determined by Council, at this meeting.
- The election is to be held at the Council meeting at which the Council resolves on the method of voting.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Local Government Act 1993 Chapter 12 Part 5 Sections 383/400AA

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Schedule 9

Stakeholders:

Council Members

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Financial Implications:

Nil

Election of Chairperson for Ensuring One (1) Year

Recommendation:

That the report be received and noted and the election for the position of Chairperson be held now.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Section 391 The Chairperson of the Local Government Act 1993

Please refer to point (2)

Local Government Act 1993 No 30 [NSW]

Chapter 12 How do councils operate?

391 The chairperson

- (1) The chairperson of a county council is the person elected to the office of chairperson by the members of the county council from among their number.
- (2) The chairperson holds office for one year, subject to this Act.
- (3) The office of chairperson:
 - (a) commences on the day the person elected to the office is declared to be so elected, and
 - (b) becomes vacant when the person's successor is declared to be elected to the office, or on the occurrence of a casual vacancy in the office.

ITEM 6.1: ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR ENSURING ONE (1) YEAR

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

Section 391 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that each County Council may have a Deputy Chairperson elected in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Discussion (including issues and background):

The role of Deputy Chairperson, in the absence of the Chairperson, is defined vide Section 391A as follows:

- To preside at meetings of the County Council;
- To exercise such other functions of the County Council as the County Council determines;

The Deputy Chairperson for the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is elected by the Members from among their own number. This is usually for one (1) year only.

The procedures for election of Deputy Chairperson by Members under Schedule 9 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 are summarised below:

- The General Manager (or a person appointed by the General Manager) is the Returning Officer.
- A Member may be nominated without notice for election as Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
- The nomination is to be made in writing by two (2) or more Members (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer.
- The Returning Officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the Council meeting at which the election is to be held.
- Nomination papers have been enclosed with the business paper and may be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer either prior to or at the commencement of the Ordinary meeting.
- If only one (1) Member is nominated, that Member is elected.
- If more than one (1) Member is nominated then the election will proceed in accordance with the method of voting determined by Council, at this meeting.
- The election is to be held at the Council meeting at which the Council resolves on the method of voting.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Local Government Act 1993 Chapter 12 Part 5 Sections 383/400AA
Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Schedule 9

Stakeholders:

Council Members

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Financial Implications:

Nil

Election of Deputy Chairperson for Ensuring One (1) Year
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the report be received and noted and the election for the position of Deputy Chairperson be held now.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

ITEM 7: DESTRUCTION OF BALLOT PAPERS

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

Where elections are held, following the conduct of those annual elections, it is appropriate to pass a motion authorising the destruction of ballot papers.

Discussion (including issues and background):

Over the years it has become accepted practice that any ballot papers used in the annual elections be destroyed and a resolution of Council is required to formalise this process.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Local Government Act 1993 Chapter 12 Part 5 Sections 383/400AA
Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Schedule 9

Stakeholders:

Council Members

Financial Implications:

Nil

Destruction of Election Ballot Papers
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That any ballot papers used in conjunction with the annual elections now be destroyed.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

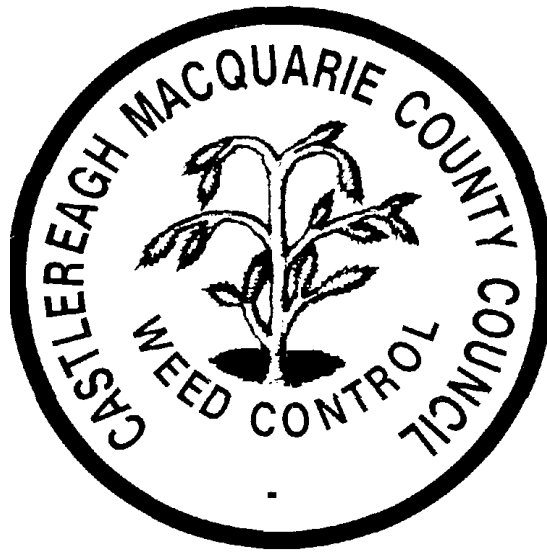
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CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL



MINUTES

**OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD AT COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
MONDAY 22ND AUGUST, 2016**

77 Fox Street
(PO Box 664)
Walgett NSW 2832

Telephone: (02) 68286116
Fax: (02) 68286108
admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

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CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT THE COONAMBLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 22
AUGUST 2016 COMMENCING AT 10:00AM**

PRESENT: Cllrs N. Kinsey (Chairman), D. Schieb, M. Webb, D. Batten, G. Peart, R. Greenaway, I. Woodcock, A. Van Lubeck, P. Shinton and M. Coe.

Staff Members: D. Ramsland (General Manager), J. Unwin (Acting Chief Weeds Officer) and C. Molloy (Weeds Officer).

1. **WELCOME:** Cllr Kinsey welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Nil
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Nil
4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

8/16/1 Resolved:

That the minutes of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held at Coonabarabran on Monday 27 June, 2016, having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Cllr Shinton

Seconded: Cllr Batten

Carried

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1 The General Manager advised that an order had been placed for the new BIS software and hardware with delivery and training to be undertaken during late August and Early September, 2016.

5.2 The issue raised in respect of sick leave is addressed in the confidential section of the meeting at item 9.6. Further research in respect of this matter will be reported to the October 2016 meeting.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Cllr Kinsey reported as follows:

Cllr Kinsey advised that he believed in the near future Council will be forced to increase its income above the official Consumer Price Index (CPI) for various reasons including the increase in fuel prices due to a number of uncertain factors including high demand worldwide, economic growth, exchange rates and inflation.

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Administrative and Reporting Costs will continue to be an important spending category for Council as Council continues to progress and for Council to attract more tech-savvy people as weeds officers, wages will need to be increased as well as the hardware and training to meet our upgraded mapping and reporting obligations.

Clr Kinsey expressed his best wishes to the Councillors, who are standing for re-election on 10 September, 2016 and as for Clr Greenaway and himself the time has come for retirement. Clr Kinsey advised that he has always had the opinion that a Councillor must be prepared to give their all or to not apply.

Clr Kinsey suggested that the Local Control Plan Programme may just be a step in the right direction for Council if all parties involved comply with legislation and carry out their duties.

Clr Kinsey extended his thanks to Don Ramsland for his hard work and dedication to the Council over the past few years and confirmed that if it wasn't for his sincere efforts the Council would not be in the position it is in today. Clr Kinsey also thanked Administration for its contribution.

8/16/2 Resolved:

That the Chairman's report be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Kinsey

Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Item 7.1 Reconciliation Certificate 30 June & 31 July 2016.

Recommendation: That the Statement of Bank Balances as at 30 June and 31 July, 2016 be received and noted.

8/16/3 Resolved:

That the Bank Reconciliations as at 30 June and 31 July, 2016 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Batten

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

Carried

Item 7.2 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – Period Ended 29 June, 2016

Recommendation: That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 29 June, 2016 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted.

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8/16/4 Resolved:

That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 29 June, 2016 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted.

Moved: Clr Webb
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

8/16/5 Resolved:

Clr Coe requested that provision of \$10,000 be made in the 2016/2017 budget for the implementation of an Advertising Campaign to raise public awareness around Noxious Weeds and to outline to Landholders and Occupiers legal obligations for control of noxious weeds on private land under the Noxious Weed Act 1993.

Moved: Clr Coe
Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

Item 7.2 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – Period Ended 31 July, 2016

Recommendation: That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 31 July, 2016 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted.

8/16/6 Resolved:

That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 31 July, 2016 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

Item 7.3 Annual Financial Statements 2015/2016

Recommendation:

1. The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2015/2016 be referred to Council's Auditor.
2. The Chairperson, another councilor, the General Manager and Finance Officer be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements.
3. On receipt of the Audited Report, a copy be forwarded to the Department of Local Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
4. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted

22nd August 2016

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by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and its requirements.

8/16/7 Resolved:

1. The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2015/2016 be referred to Council's Auditor.
2. The Chairperson, another councillor, the General Manager and Finance Officer be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements.
3. On receipt of the Audited Report, a copy be forwarded to the Department of Local Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
4. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and its requirements.

Moved: Clr Peart
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

Carried

Item 7.4 Review of Council's Insurances 2016/2017

Recommendation: That the action taken to renew Council's insurance policies for 2016/2017 be endorsed and appropriate adjustment be made to Council's budget where required.

8/16/8 Resolved:

1. That the action taken to renew Council's insurance policies for 2016/2017 be endorsed and appropriate adjustment be made to Council's budget where required.
2. Councillors requested that the General Manager check the property insurance (Building and Contents) for Council and provide an update at the next meeting.

Moved: Clr Batten
Seconded: Clr Coe

Carried

Item 7.5 CMCC Work Health and Safety (WH&S) for 2016/2017

Recommendation: That the General Manager's report in respect of the StateCover self-audit process be received and noted.

8/16/9 Resolved:

That the General Manager's report in respect of the StateCover self-audit process be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Peart
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

Carried

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Item 7.6 The 2015 NSW Biosecurity Act – Supplementary Information Paper

Recommendation: That the Supplementary Information Paper released by Department of Primary Industries in April 2016 be received and noted.

8/16/10 Resolved:

That the Supplementary Information Paper released by Department of Primary Industries in April 2016 be received and noted.

Moved: Cllr Webb

Seconded: Cllr Van Lubeck

Carried

Item 7.7. Review – Organisational Action Plan – August 2016

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the General Manager's report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the new Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.

8/16/11 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the General Manager's report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the new Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.

Moved: Cllr Shinton

Seconded: Cllr Batten

Carried

Item 7.8. Updated Local Control Plans – Class 4 Weeds

Recommendation: That Council adopt the updated version of each of the local control plans as tabled in the attachment document and make the plans accessible through the CMCC website.

8/16/12 Resolved:

1. Council adopt the updated version of each of the local control plans as tabled in the attachment document.
2. Make the plans accessible through the CMCC website.

Moved: Cllr Greenaway

Seconded: Cllr Webb

Carried

Item 7.9. Matters for Brief Mention or Generally for Information Only

Recommendation: That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager's report to the August, 2016 meeting be received and noted and Council determine any other action required.

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8/16/13 Resolved:

That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager's report to the August, 2016 meeting be received and noted and Council determine any other action required.

Moved: Clr Peart
Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

8. ACTING SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER'S REPORT

Item 8.1 Acting Senior Weeds Officer's Report

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Acting Senior Weeds Officer's Report.

8/16/14 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Acting Senior Weeds Officer's report for June / July 2016.

Moved: Clr Coe
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

Item 8.2 Noxious Plant Reports

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Noxious Plant reports for Coonamble, Gilgandra, Walgett, Warren and Warrumbungles.

8/16/15 Resolved:

That Council receive and confirm Noxious Plant reports for Coonamble, Gilgandra, Walgett, Warren and Warrumbungles.

Moved: Clr Coe
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

1. Motion to move in to Confidential Session

8/16/16 Resolved:

That at 11.22am Council move into Confidential session and that the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Section 10A (2) (a) and (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the matters being considered are in relation to staff and/or commercial in confidence.

22nd August 2016

Ordinary Council Meeting

Council Minutes

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers
On 10th October 2016

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

Moved: Clr Coe
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

Carried

2. Property Inspections Report

Recommendation: That the Property Inspections Report be received and noted as a whole

8/16/17 Resolved:

That Council receive and note all confidential Property Inspections report matters as a whole.

Moved: Clr Webb
Seconded: Clr Peart

Carried

Item 9.6 Managing Sick Leave Entitlement

Recommendation: That the General Manager's report be received and noted and a further report for Council's consideration following further research.

8/16/18 Resolved:

That the General Manager's report be received and noted and a further report for Council's consideration following further research.

Moved: Clr Webb
Seconded: Clr Batten

Carried

8/16/19 Resolved:

Councillors requested that the General Manager and Senior Weeds Officer provide a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the Council at the next meeting.

Moved: Clr Batten
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

Carried

3. Motion to move out of Confidential Session

8/16/20 Resolved:

That at 11.45am Council move out of Confidential Session.

Moved: Clr Van Lubeck
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

22nd August 2016

Ordinary Council Meeting

Council Minutes

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers
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CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

		Carried
Adoption of Closed Section Reports		
8/16/21 Resolved:		
That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports.		
- Property Inspections Report - Managing Sick Leave Entitlement		
Moved:	Clr Woodcock	
Seconded:	Clr Webb	
		Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS - Nil

PRESENTATIONS

At this point in the meeting Clr Peter Shinton extended a note of thanks to retiring councillors Noel Kinsey and Robert Greenaway saying that each councillor had done an excellent job and would be a great loss.

He added that it had been a pleasure working with them. He then made a presentation to each councillor. Clr Kinsey responded that he had enjoyed working with a great bunch of blokes and wouldn't go over his worker comments again.

Clr Greenaway said it was a great pleasure to be apart of a County that was doing an excellent job. He wished the County all the best for the future.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 31 October, 2016 at Walgett.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 11:55AM

To be confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 31st October 2016.

CHAIRMAN

GENERAL MANAGER

General Manager's Report

ITEM 12.1: REVIEW OF COUNCILLORS PAYMENT AND EXPENSES POLICY

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to enable Council to review the Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors.

Background:

Council is required to adopt a Policy for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Councillors within 12 months of the term of a new Council, in accordance with Section 252 of the Local Government Act.

Current Position:

The existing Policy has been revised for Council's consideration, taking into account the existing policy, legislative requirements and the guidelines issued by the Department of Local Government.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Local Government Act 1993

Governance Issues:

The adoption of a Policy will contribute to the effective governance of the organisation.

Environmental Issues:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Councillors

Financial Implications:

The monetary amounts in the Policy may vary.

Options/Alternatives:

Council is required to adopt a Policy for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Councillors; however the terms of the Policy may be varied.

Conclusion:

The limits of expenditure may vary and Council should consider whether the suggested rates are equitable. Council adopt the policy within 12 months of the term of the new Council as stated in Section 252 of the Local Government Act.

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of Council

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On 10th October 2016

Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors

Recommendation:

1. That Council give notice of its intention to adopt the Draft Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors, in accordance with Section 252 of the Local Government Act.
2. Consider updating the various expenditure limits.
3. And that the Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy then be placed on public exhibition and public submissions invited for a period of 28 (twenty-eight) days.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Revised Payment Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy Draft – circulated separately.

ITEM 12.2: PAYMENT OF COUNCILLORS 2016/2017.

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

Pursuant to Section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal determines the categories for Councils and the maximum and minimum fees to be paid during the forthcoming Financial Year to Mayors and Councillors within each category. The Tribunal released its determinations for the 2016/17 Financial Year on 29 March 2016.

Background:

In October 2014 Council resolved to:

10/14/8 Resolved:

That the fees for 2014/15 be set at \$5,000 for the Chairperson and \$3,000 for a member.

Moved: Clr Shinton
Seconded: Clr Coe

Carried

Please note there was no change to Payments for the 2015/2016 financial year.

Current Position:

Council has previously adopted the practice of adopting the maximum fee set by the remuneration tribunal. As a matter of policy Councillor Fees in future should be set at the maximum level set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal. As such, there would then be no need to determine this matter annually.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Local Government Act 1993

2013/14 Report and Determinations of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Governance issues:

It is considered important that Councillor's fees should properly reflect the effort put into this very important and at times onerous public office.

The consideration of fees is used at some Councils as an opportunity to grandstand and to not keep pace with inflation. By adopting the maximum fees set by an Independent Tribunal Council, can ensure reasonable payment for services rendered. Fees should be reflective of Councillors lost income from their usual occupation or the need to pay someone to replace them whilst they are absent from their usual employment/role on Council business.

Environmental issues:

Nil

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Stakeholders:

Councillors and citizens

Financial Implications:

Provision for the fees has been made in the Draft Budget 2016/2017.

Conclusion:

That Council adopt the maximum fees payable as set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal from time to time for County Councils.

Fees for Councillors 2016/2017

Recommendation:

That Council as a matter of policy resolve to adopt the minimum fees payable for “County Councils – Other” as set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal from time to time.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Local Government Remunerations Tribunal - Determination pursuant to section 241 of the Local Government Act - Fees for Councillors and Mayors.

Please refer to Row – other

Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Determination No. 2- Determination Pursuant to Section 241 of Fees for Councillors and Mayors

Pursuant to s.241 of the Local Government Act 1993, the annual fees to be paid in each of the categories to Councillors, Mayors, Members and Chairpersons of County Councils effective on and from 1 July 2016 are determined as follows:

Table 3: Fees for General Purpose and County Councils

Table 3: Fees for General Purpose and County Councils				
Category	Councillor/Member Annual Fee		Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
General Purpose Councils				
Principal City	25,670	37,640	157,030	206,620
Major City	17,110	28,240	36,360	82,270
Metropolitan Major	17,110	28,240	36,360	82,270
Metropolitan Centre	12,830	23,950	27,260	63,640
Metropolitan	8,540	18,840	18,180	41,090
Regional Rural	8,540	18,840	18,180	41,090
Rural	8,540	11,290	9,080	24,630
County Councils				
Water	1,700	9,410	3,640	15,460
Other	1,700	5,630	3,640	10,270

*This fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor/Chairperson as a Councillor/Member (s.249(2)).

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Signed

Dr Robert Lang

Dated: 29 March 2016

ITEM 12.3: REVIEW OF MEETING DATES, TIMES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to enable Council to review the Time, Date and Place of Ordinary Meetings of the Council. It is desirable that Council determine its meeting schedule for the whole of 2017 to facilitate forward planning.

Discussion (Including Issues and Background):

In December 2014 vide minute 12/14/3 Council resolved that : Meetings of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting be held on the third Monday of every second month – February, April, June, August, October and December rotating between constituent council offices and commencing at 10:00am.

The following schedule provides for Meetings in 2017 to be held on the third Monday of every second month. The locations are in the same sequence as for 2012. It is proposed that meetings continue to commence at 10.00am as has been the practice in the past.

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| • Monday 10 th October, 2016 | Walgett |
| • Monday 12 th December, 2016 | Gilgandra |
| • Monday 20 th February, 2017 | Warren |
| • Monday 17 th April, 2017 | Coonabarabran |
| • Monday 19 th June, 2017 | Coonamble |
| • Monday 21 st August, 2017 | Walgett |
| • Monday 16 th October, 2017 | Gilgandra |

However, such dates can be altered for any ordinary Council meeting for good or sufficient reason by resolution of Council at any preceding meeting.

The general order of business for the Council Business Paper is recommended as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Declaration of Interests
4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Matters Arising from Minutes
6. Report from Chairman
7. Report of the General Manager
8. Reports of the Senior Weeds Officer
9. Confidential
10. Motion of Confidential Report
11. Questions for Next Meeting
12. Next Meeting Venue/Date
13. Close

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of Council

Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers

On 10th October 2016

Relevant Reference Documents:

Code of Meeting Practice

Stakeholders:

Councillors, staff and local residents.

Review of Meeting Dates, Times and Order of Business

Recommendation:

1. That the schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings for 2017 be outlined as follows:

- Monday 10th October, 2016 - Walgett
- Monday 12th December, 2016 - Gilgandra
- Monday 20th February, 2017 - Warren
- Monday 17th April, 2017 - Coonabarabran
- Monday 19th June, 2017 - Coonamble
- Monday 21st August, 2017 - Walgett
- Monday 16th October, 2017 - Gilgandra

2. That the order of Business and the Business Paper Format be outlined as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Declaration of Interests
4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Matters Arising from Minutes
6. Report from Chairman
7. Report of the General Manager
8. Reports of the Senior Weeds Officer
9. Confidential
10. Motion of Confidential Report
11. Questions for Next Meeting
12. Next Meeting Venue/Date
13. Close

Moved:

Seconded:

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers
On 10th October 2016

ITEM 12.4: RECONCILIATION CERTIFICATE 31 August 2016

Reconciled Ledger Accounts for 31 August 2016 are as follows:

Balance of Ledger – 1-1110

Balance 31/07/16	103,345.55
Plus Receipts	446,888.08
Less Payment	48,272.60
	<u>\$501,961.03</u>

Balance of Bank Accounts

Balance 31/08/2016 #273228001484	\$501,961.03
Less: Outstanding Cheques	
Chq# 6536 Telstra	24/08/16 \$265.01
Chq# 6537 LG Super	24/08/16 \$1,638.00
Chq#6538 MLC Masterkey Super	24/08/16 \$353.52
	<u>\$499,704.50</u>

Stores Balance 1-1410	31/08/16	\$13,067.20
Debtors Balance 1-1310	31/08/16	\$194,648.34
ELE Reserve Balance 1-1210	31/08/16	\$103,000.00
Plant Reserve 1-1220	31/08/16	\$9,000.00

Debtors:

Local Land Services	Invoice #812825	30/06/15	\$25,000.00
	Invoice #812826	30/06/15	\$15,000.00
Walgett Shire Council	Invoice #8973	30/06/16	\$40,000.00
Coonamble Shire Council	Invoice #8969	26/07/16	\$40.00
Warren Shire Council	Invoice #8968	28/07/16	\$111,440.34
Glenn Johnstone	Invoice #8970	16/08/16	\$3,168.00
			<u>\$194,648.34</u>

Recommendation:

The Statement of Bank Balances as 31 August, 2016 be received & adopted.

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
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CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

STORES INVENTORY REPORT

31 August 2016

<u>Item No:</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Stock</u>	<u>Total Value</u>
1032	Access	\$400.00 (5L)	2	\$800.00
2020	Regain 200	\$300.00 (20kg)	0	\$0.00
2085	Grazon Extra	\$590.00 (20L)	8	\$4,720.00
2895	Round-Up Extra	\$154.80 (20L)	39	\$6,037.20
3225	Spray Dye	\$160.00 (5L)	4	\$640.00
3530	Uptake Oil	\$130.00 (20L)	3	\$390.00
3710	Genwet 1000	\$120.00 (20L)	4	\$480.00
<u>TOTAL VALUE</u>				\$13,067.20

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers
On 10th October 2016

ITEM 12.4: RECONCILIATION CERTIFICATE 30 September 2016

Reconciled Ledger Accounts for 30 September 2016 are as follows:

Balance of Ledger – 1-1110

Balance 31/08/16	501,961.03
Plus Receipts	45,045.48
Less Payment	47,564.30
	<u>\$499,442.21</u>

Balance of Bank Accounts

Balance 30/09/16 #273228001484	\$499,442.21
Less: Outstanding Cheques	
Chq# 6544 Telstra	28/09/16 \$250.01
	<u>\$499,192.20</u>

Stores Balance 1-1410	30/09/16	\$13,067.20
Debtors Balance 1-1310	30/09/16	\$151,480.34
ELE Reserve Balance 1-1210	30/09/16	\$103,000.00
Plant Reserve 1-1220	30/09/16	\$9,000.00

Debtors:

Local Land Services	Invoice #812825	30/06/15	\$25,000.00
	Invoice #812826	30/06/15	\$15,000.00
Coonamble Shire Council	Invoice #8969	26/07/16	\$40.00
Warren Shire Council	Invoice #8968	28/07/16	\$111,440.34

\$151,480.34

Recommendation:

The Statement of Bank Balances as 30 September, 2016 be received & adopted.

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers
On 10th October 2016

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

STORES INVENTORY REPORT

30 September 2016

<u>Item No:</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Stock</u>	<u>Total Value</u>
1032	Access	\$400.00 (5L)	2	\$800.00
2020	Regain 200	\$300.00 (20kg)	0	\$0.00
2085	Grazon Extra	\$590.00 (20L)	8	\$4,720.00
2895	Round-Up Extra	\$154.80 (20L)	39	\$6,037.20
3225	Spray Dye	\$160.00 (5L)	4	\$640.00
3530	Uptake Oil	\$130.00 (20L)	3	\$390.00
3710	Genwet 1000	\$120.00 (20L)	4	\$480.00
<u>TOTAL VALUE</u>				\$13,067.20

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of Council

Held at Walgett Shire Council Chambers

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ITEM 12.5: QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER, 2016

REPORTING SECTION: Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager

FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

This report will be tabled at the meeting as a supplementary report due to the timing of the meeting.

ITEM 12.6 ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW UPDATE – OCTOBER 2016

REPORTING SECTION: Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

Summary:

To review the Organisational Action Plan.

Background:

In March, 2014 Council adopted a twelve point plan as part of the proposed organisational restructure of the County Council.

With the close of the 2015/16 financial year all but two of those measures have been completed, the outstanding issues being the finalisation of the appointment of the Senior Weeds Officer and the repayment of the last \$10,000 instalments in respect of the advances made by our Constituent Councils to fund the restructure.

Current Position:

As part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation Council should be looking at the outcomes achieved from its Business Activity Statement and supporting legislation. Of paramount importance is the need to be proactive in the local government reform process and, in particular preparing a submission in respect of the joint organisation concept.

It is also a requirement that all the elements of the IP&R supporting legislation be reviewed within twelve months of the September quadrennial elections and ensure they address the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 2015.

During August 2016, Council commenced putting a new digital information system in place to meet the requirements of the new Biosecurity Information System (BIS) and be able to provide data for the new state wide data base. Training for staff will begin next week.

At its meeting on 27 June, 2016 Council adopted a 30 point Organisational Action Plan for 2016/17. It is planned to update and implement progressively throughout the year and to also review at each meeting.

This report to the October, 2016 meeting is the second of these reviews and progress in respect of the following elements has now been identified after allowing for the inclusion of three additional items:

- Report on the outcomes achieved through the Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation from its Business Activity Strategy and supporting legislation. – review commenced
- All the elements of the IP&R supporting legislation be reviewed within twelve months of the September quadrennial elections and ensure they address the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 2015. – review commenced

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- Review Councillors' remuneration – report prepared
- Review its salary system, work practices and costing documentation – review commenced
- Update all policies and procedures – 4 revised policies attached
- Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements - completed and report to October 2016 meeting.

Any Councillors' queries can be discussed at the meeting.

Relevant Reference Documents:

Council's Operational Plan and Budget for 2016/2017, August, 2016/17 QBRS statements and Long Term Financial Plan

Business Activity Strategic Plan Link:

The issues identified during the preparation of the 2016/2017 Operational Plan and Budget are linked back to Council's 2016/2020 Delivery Plan and Business Activity Strategy

Delivery Plan Link:

The issues identified during the preparation of the 2016/2017 Operational Plan and Budget are linked back to Council's 2016/2020 Delivery Plan and Business Activity Strategy

Operational Plan/Budget Link:

The issues identified in 2016/2020 Council's Delivery Plan and Business Activity Strategy are directly linked to the 2016/2017 Operational Plan and Budget provisions

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Council Staff

Constituent Councils

Local residents and landholders

Governance Issues:

The aim of this report is to acquaint Councillors with the progress being made in respect of the many and varied tasks that need to be addressed over the next twelve months. As necessary, over the next twelve months, additional items may be added to the action plan.

Environmental Issues:

Not applicable

Financial Implications:

Maintaining both Council's financial viability and ongoing sustainability into the future are essential elements. The bleak financial future Council was facing two years ago has been turned around to one where a ten year financial plan indicates an increasing level of available funds and at the same time sees due provision being made for future liabilities such as ELE and Plant Replacement.

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Legal Issues:

Council will need to be mindful of any changes in local government legislation that may have serious impacts into the future.

Alternatives/Options:

Not to be aware of ongoing issues or plan for the future

Conclusion:

As discussed previously, it is to Council's credit that it has been prepared to take the tough decisions to address its recent financial dilemma and turn the financial situation around.

However, as well as routine operational requirements, there are other issues outside Council's control including the functioning Local Land Services, the review of noxious weed management and more recently the NSW Office of Local Government's discussion paper in respect of Joint Organisations that have now come into play. This report notes the success and progress made in relation to the new Organisational Action Plan.

Organisational Review Update – October 2016
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council receive and note the General Manager's report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the new Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Organisational Action Plan



CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
ORGANISATIONAL ACTION PLAN

August

1. Be proactive in the local government reform process by preparing a submission in respect of the joint organisation concept. - ongoing
2. Finalise annual statements of account for 2015/16 - completed
3. Review and update its WH&S policies and procedures - completed
4. Review and negotiate Council's Insurances - completed
5. Update Local Control Plans – Class 4 Weeds -completed
6. Prepare 2015/16 WAP 1520 return - completed
7. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements - completed

October

8. Report on the outcomes achieved through the Intergrated Planning and Reporting legislation Council from its Business Activity Strategy and supporting legislation.
9. All the elements of the IP&R supporting legislation be reviewed within twelve months of the September quadrennial elections and ensure they address the requirements of the Bio-Security Act 2015.
10. Review Councillors' remuneration
11. Review its salary system, work practices and costing documentation
12. Update all policies and procedures
13. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements

December

14. Auditor's presentation to December, 2016 and annual statements table for adoption
15. Re-negotiate property leases with constituent councils where appropriate
16. Conduct both WH&S and Award Consultative Committee meetings
17. Provide the secretariat for the Hudson pear Task Force
18. Run a series of weeds eradication programmes based on seasonal conditions
19. Improve communication with state agencies and other stakeholders
20. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements

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February

- 21. Monitor insurance cover and ensure all risks are reasonably addressed
- 22. Provide regular feed back to constituent councils through the distribution of agendas and minutes
- 23. Maintain an up to date website and records system
- 24. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements
- 25. Research grant fund opportunities

April

- 26. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements
- 27. Provide regular feed back to constituent councils through the distribution of agendas and minutes
- 28. Prepare Draft Budget for 2017/18 and supporting documentation
- 29. Advertise estimates

June

- 30. Prepare Draft Budget for 2017/18 and supporting documentation
- 31. Community consultation
- 32. Commence annual statement preparation
- 33. Review ELE reserves

ITEM 12.7 MATTERS FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION ONLY

REPORTING SECTION: Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

AUTHOR: Don Ramsland – General Manager

FILE NUMBER: 09/47-03

1. BIS Implementation – Update

Council purchased the WeedMap Pro Biosecurity Information System and Algiz 10X handheld devices in July 2016. It is predicted that the systems will be fully installed and implemented with training dates scheduled for Weeds Officers and Administrative Staff on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th October. It is anticipated that Council will be in a position to report to BIS utilising the WeedMap Pro Summit that is due by the 5 November, 2016.

2. Disclosure of Interest Returns

Section 449(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires councillors (and designated persons) to complete and lodge a Primary Return within three months after being elected.

Section 449(3) of the LGA 1993 requires councillors (and designated persons) who hold that position on 30 June in each year to lodge a “Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons Return”.

All current Councillors who held office at 30 June and have been re-elected, and designated officers, should have lodged such a return with their General Managers by **30 September** each year.

Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager’s report to the October, 2016 meeting be received and noted and Council determine any other action required.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Section 2

Senior Weeds Officer's Report

ITEM 13.1: SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER'S REPORT – AUGUST TO SEPTEMBER 2016

Over the past two months we have carried out two public displays in the Walgett Shire with the MVWAC Weeds Display Trailer. The value of these field days was demonstrated when a local resident identified an outbreak of Parkinsonia on a property just outside the levee bank in Walgett where we found an infestation of about 70 to 80 plants. The infestation has since been treated and an inspection carried out along the river bank.

Since the last Council meeting in August I have attended two NWRWC meetings, one held at Narrabri on Wednesday 21st September. Discussion was around the lack of enforceable language in the new Biosecurity Act. I feel as though there has been a lack of leadership from the DPI and LLS in this regard as most of the correspondence I have seen so far demonstrates changes in terminology.

Two Weeds Officers and I attended TAFE Western in Dubbo on Friday 9th September to complete our General Construction White Card Course which is a requirement to carry out work on most Council sites.

The treatment of African Boxthorn has been extended by at least a month due to the rain the Boxthorn appears very fresh and will respond to treatment very well. Due to the amount of rain we have seen and some areas where flooding has occurred summer will be busy with Burrs in the Western Shires while Briars Burr, St Johns Wort, Blue Heliotrope and Blackberry will be a problem on the Easter side of Gilgandra Shire and the whole of Warrumbungle Shire.

There seems to be some problem addressed with the funding of the Project Officer who has done most of the work on the changeover to the new Biosecurity Act on our behalf however it seems the LLS may be looking after this now.

There will be a new weeds list introduced with the new Biosecurity Act but it seems that any weed that is spreading from one property to the next will come under a General Biosecurity Duty GBD and action will need to be taken.

The new Act is said to be modelled based on the Queensland model but it is difficult to see why when you travel any distance in that state.

This concludes the County Report for August to September 2016.

John Unwin

Senior Weeds Officer

ITEM 13.2 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

COONAMBLE NOXIOUS PLANT REPORT

FROM: 25.07.2016

TO: 25.09.2016

Seasonal Conditions: In the Coonamble Shire over the past two months it has been very wet due to significant rainfall. Property inspections have started to pick up again with the majority being new inspections and a number being re-inspections.

Milestones	Activities Undertaken	Outcomes Achieved
1. Control noxious weeds on private property.	1. Carry out property inspections.	1. Number of properties inspected: <u>23</u> 2. Area inspected: <u>17,826.5 hectares</u> 3. Area infested: <u>2,217 hectares</u> 4. Area treated: <u>100 hectares</u>
2. Control noxious weeds on council-controlled land	2. Treat roadsides	5. Area treated along roadsides: <u>30 hectares</u> 6. Area inspected: <u>3,000 kms</u> 7. Area infested: <u>30 hectares</u> 8. Area treated: <u>30 hectares</u>
1. Bi-monthly Plant usage Vehicle 1. kms at start of months <u>18,500 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms at end of months <u>23,350 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms travelled for 2 months <u>4,850 kms</u>

ITEM 13.3 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

GILGANDRA NOXIOUS PLANT REPORT

FROM: 26/07/2016

TO: 25/09/16

Seasonal Conditions: Over the past two months the Gilgandra Shire has received a significant amount of rain with some finer weather starting to appear.

Milestones	Activities Undertaken	Outcomes Achieved
2. Control noxious weeds on private property.	1. Carry out property inspections.	1. Number of properties inspected: <u>25</u> 2. Area inspected: <u>2,012 hectares</u> 3. Area infested: <u>85 hectares</u> 4. Area treated: <u>15 hectares</u>
3. Control noxious weeds on council-controlled land	2. Treat roadsides for African Boxthorn Green Cestrum Bridal Creeper	5. Area treated along roadsides: <u>1,635 kms</u> 6. Area inspected: <u>3,795 kms</u> 7. Area infested: <u>1,800 kms</u> 8. Area treated: <u>1,635 kms</u>
9. Bi-monthly Plant usage Vehicle 1. kms at start of months <u>155,360 kms</u> Vehicle 2. kms at start of months <u>110,885 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms at end of months <u>170,000 kms</u> Vehicle 2. kms at end of months <u>113,022 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms travelled for 2 months <u>14,640 kms</u> Vehicle 2. kms travelled for 2 months <u>2,137 kms</u>

ITEM 13.4 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

WALGETT NOXIOUS PLANT REPORT

FROM: August 2016

TO: September 2016

Seasonal Conditions: Throughout August and September the weather conditions have been very wet with heavy rainfall throughout most of the reporting period.

Milestones	Activities Undertaken	Outcomes Achieved
1. Control noxious weeds on private property.	1. Carry out property inspections.	1. Number of properties inspected: <u>18</u> 2. Area inspected: <u>34,600 acres</u> 3. Area infested: <u>6,820 acres</u> 4. Area treated: <u>135 acres</u>
2. Control noxious weeds on council-controlled land	2. Treat roadsides for Prickly Pear African Boxthorn	5. Area treated along roadsides: <u>15 kms</u> 6. Area inspected: <u>2,092 kms</u> 7. Area infested: <u>15 kms</u> 8. Area treated: <u>15 kms</u>
9. Bi-monthly Plant usage Vehicle 1. AV-48-PY kms at start of months <u>250,469 kms</u> Vehicle 2. AH-19-SS kms at start of months <u>290,929 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms at end of months <u>251,920 kms</u> Vehicle 2. kms at start of months <u>293,945 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms travelled for 2 months <u>1,451 kms</u> Vehicle 2. kms at start of months <u>3,016 kms</u>

ITEM 13.5 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

WARREN NOXIOUS PLANT REPORT

FROM: August 2016

TO: September 2016

Seasonal Conditions: Throughout August the Warren Shire had rain above average with 65mm and September had 130mm at the Warren Airport. Due to the amount of rain most of the unsealed roads in the Warren Shire were closed.

Milestones	Activities Undertaken	Outcomes Achieved
1. Control noxious weeds on private property.	1. Carry out property inspections.	1. Number of properties inspected: <u>8</u> 2. Area inspected: <u>995 hectares</u> 3. Area infested: <u>95 hectares</u> 4. Area treated: <u>80 hectares</u>
2. Control noxious weeds on council-controlled land	2. Treat roadsides for African Boxthorn Blue Heliotrope Green Cestrum Mimosa Bush Tiger Pear Common Pear	5. Area treated along roadsides: <u>1,400 kms</u> 6. Area inspected: <u>1,992 kms</u> 7. Area infested: <u>1,500 kms</u> 8. Area treated: <u>1,367 kms</u>
9. Bi-monthly Plant usage Vehicle 1. kms at start of months <u>139,276 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. Kms at end of months <u>146,098 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. Kms travelled for 2 months <u>6,822 kms</u>

ITEM 13.6 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

WARRUMBUNGL SHIRE NOXIOUS PLANT REPORT

FROM: August 2016

TO: September 2016

Seasonal Conditions In the August to September period 802 points or 200.5mm of rain has fallen in the gauge at Binnaway with more to come before the end of the month. Large bodies of feed and mud in paddocks contrasts sharply with this time last year. Crops are still doing well except in low lying areas so it is very nice to look at. We can also expect to see large areas of summer burrs and other noxious weeds later in the season.

Milestones	Activities Undertaken	Outcomes Achieved
3. Control noxious weeds on private property.	2. Carry out property inspections.	1. Number of properties inspected: <u>5</u> 2. Area inspected: <u>9,600 hectares</u> 3. Area infested: <u>800 hectares</u> 4. Area treated: <u>100 hectares</u>
4. Control noxious weeds on council-controlled land	2. Treat roadsides for	5. Area treated along roadsides: <u>100 kms</u> 6. Area inspected: <u>979 kms</u> 7. Area infested: <u>100 kms</u> 8. Area treated: <u>100 kms</u>
5. Bi-monthly Plant usage Vehicle 1. kms at start of months <u>31,937 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. kms at end of months <u>42,691 kms</u>	Vehicle 1. Kms travelled for 2 months <u>10,754 kms</u>