

Blayney Shire Council



6 July 2011

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is requested at an Ordinary Council Meeting of the Blayney Shire Council to be held in the Council Chambers on Monday, 11 July 2011 at 6.00 pm for consideration of the following business -

- (1) Acknowledgement of Country
- (2) Apologies for non-attendance
- (3) Confirmation of Minutes
- (4) - Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20.06.11
- Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 30.06.11
- (5) Matters arising from Minutes
- (6) Disclosures of Interest
- (7) Mayoral Minute
- (8) Notices of Motion
- (9) Reports of Staff
 - (a) Corporate Services
 - (b) Engineering Services
- (10) Committee Reports

Yours faithfully

GS Baker

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

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HELD ON MONDAY 11 JULY 2011

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MAYORAL MINUTE
PRESENTED TO THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2011



01)

REQUEST TO AMEND MINUTES OF 9 MAY 2011
(Cr Kingham)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That Council agree to confirm that the original Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of 9 May 2011, with particular reference to Minute number 1105/017 read:

DRAFT BLAYNEY LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN
(FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION)

1105/001

RESOLVED:

1. *That Council Resolves that the Draft Plan is consistent with the adopted land use strategies for the Blayney Shire including, but not limited to, the Councils of Blayney, Cabonne and Orange City (July 2008) Sub-Regional Rural and Industrial Land Use Strategy and the Blayney Shire Council (March 2011) Blayney Settlement Strategy.*
2. *Approves Draft BLEP2011 as set out in Attachments 1-3 to this report for the purpose of public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of the EP&A Act;*
3. *Forwards the Draft Plan to the Director-General of the Department of Planning requesting that a certificate pursuant to Section 65 of the EP&A Act be issued to allow public exhibition of the Draft Plan;*
4. *In seeking a certificate under Section 65, forwards all relevant supporting documentation indicating the actions taken to fulfill responsibilities under the EP&A Act including, but not limited to Consultation (Section 62), and compliance with the relevant Ministerial Directions (Section 117), Planning Circulars, State Environmental Planning Policies ('SEPPs'), and land use strategies adopted by Blayney Shire Council;*
5. *Seeks the Director-General's opinion that the inconsistencies between the Draft Plan and any Ministerial Directions or Planning Circulars are, for the reasons identified, of minor significance or can be addressed at a later date;*
6. *Upon receipt of a certificate under Section 65, Council exhibits the Draft Plan for a minimum period of eight (8) weeks unless it falls within December 2011 or January 2012 in which case an additional month be added to the exhibition period;*
7. *Provides the General Manager with the delegation to make minor technical and policy amendments to the adopted Draft Plan arising out of the pre-Section 64 consultation with the Department of Planning or as required in a Section 65 Certificate to exhibit the Draft Plan;*
8. *Requires the Draft Plan be reconsidered by Council in*

the event that significant policy changes are sought by the Department of Planning prior to the issue of a Section 65 Certificate;

9. *Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Draft Plan to manage consultation processes for the Draft Plan.*
10. *With the following additional 4 amendments*
 - a. *That the minimum lot size for subdivision in the Village Zone for Mandurama remain at 1,000 sq mtrs.*
 - b. *That the Village Zone Boundary in Neville be moved to include the blocks fronting Crouch Street, Neville, between the Neville Siding through to Bathurst Street, being Lot 8 DP 37459; Lot 9 DP 37459; Lot 2 DP 770036; Lot 10 DP 152398; Lot 11 DP 152398; Lot 12 DP 326206; Lot 12A DP 326206; Lot 7 DP 152398; Lot 1 Sec 2 DP 37459; Lot 2 Sec 2 DP 37459; Lot 3 Sec 2 DP 37459; Lot 4 Sec 2 DP 37459; Lot A DP 157689.*
 - c. *That the premises in Adelaide Street Blayney, currently trading as Emms Mooney & Co, being Lot 6 Sec 8 DP 758121; be included in the business zone.*
 - d. *That the proposed E3 Zone (water catchment areas) have a minimum lot size of 100 hectares. (Braddon/Ewin)*

REASON regarding 10 d) the minimum subdivision lot size be reduced to a minimum lot size of 100 hectares to maintain continuity with our adjoining local government areas.

The **DIVISION** was taken and the names of the Councillors voting FOR and AGAINST were as follows:

FOR

Councillor Kingham
Councillor Ewin
Councillor Reeks
Councillor Braddon
Councillor Bell
Councillor Ferguson
Councillor Radburn

Total (7)

AGAINST

Total (0)

Director Environmental & Planning left the Chambers at 7.00 pm.

BACKGROUND:

At the June Ordinary Meeting of Council, under 'Other Business' a request was made for an amendment to Minute 1105/017 in relation to request from Cr Bell and further discussion by Councillors regarding a statement "that the

Mayor requested the Director return to his seat and remain in the Chambers for the rest of the meeting". The Minutes in their original form were thereby amended and including the amendment, the Minutes were adopted at the Meeting.

Taking advice from Council Staff and the Local Government and Shires Association, I confirm that Council Minutes are a record of the Business of Council and Resolutions of Council only. I have identified that the form and the contents of the Minutes are required to conform with the Local Government Act, Regulations and proper practice. Council has an obligation under the Local Government Act to ensure that full and accurate minutes are kept of the proceedings of a meeting of the Council, however, the Minutes are not a verbatim record of debate or comment.

It is with this information in front of me that I request that the Councillors confirm their willingness to delete the words which were inserted into the Minutes of 9 May 2011, with particular reference to 1105/017 and by that deletion return the Minutes of the Meeting of 9 May 2011 to their original form.

The business that this Mayoral Minute seeks to transact is to amend the form of the Minutes of the Meeting of 9 May 2011 as those Minutes were adopted. That action would have the effect of amending a resolution of Council and identifying the Notice of Motion of Crs Ferguson and Braddon (Item 02) this business is brought to the Meeting with the support of 3 Councillors, which is the number of Councillors required to alter or rescind a resolution.

Attachments

Nil

NOTICES OF MOTION
PRESENTED TO THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2011



AMENDED MINUTES OF 11/05/2011
(Cr Scott Ferguson)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the original unamended minutes 1105/001 to 1105/020 of May 9 2011 Ordinary Meeting of Blayney Shire Council be adopted as a true record of that meeting.

A Notice of Motion was received at Council on 28 June 2011, from Cr Ferguson and Cr Braddon in relation to the Minutes of the May Ordinary Meeting of Council, held on May 9 2011.

Attachments

1 Notice of Motion 1 Page

29/06/2011 07:29 63673139
08/11/2007 17:20 63682359

GEOFF BRADDON
SCOTT FERGUSON

PAGE 01/01
PAGE 01/01

Notice of Motion**28-6-2011**

"That the original unamended minutes 1105/001 to 1105/020 of the May 9th, 2011 Ordinary meeting of Blayney Shire Council be adopted as a true record of that meeting"

Cr Scott Ferguson



Cr Geoff Braddon



Braddon O.A.M. J.P.

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS
PRESENTED TO THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2011



03) REQUEST FOR LEAVE - CR A EWIN
(Acting General Manager)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That Council confirm the request from Cr Ewin of a Leave of Absence for the July Ordinary Meeting of Council

REPORT

Attached is a request received from Cr Ewin on 26 June regarding a request for a Leave of Absence from the July Ordinary Meeting of Council

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

Attachments

1 Cr Ewin_Request for Leave 1 Page

04) REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2011
(Manager Financial Services)

RECOMMENDED:

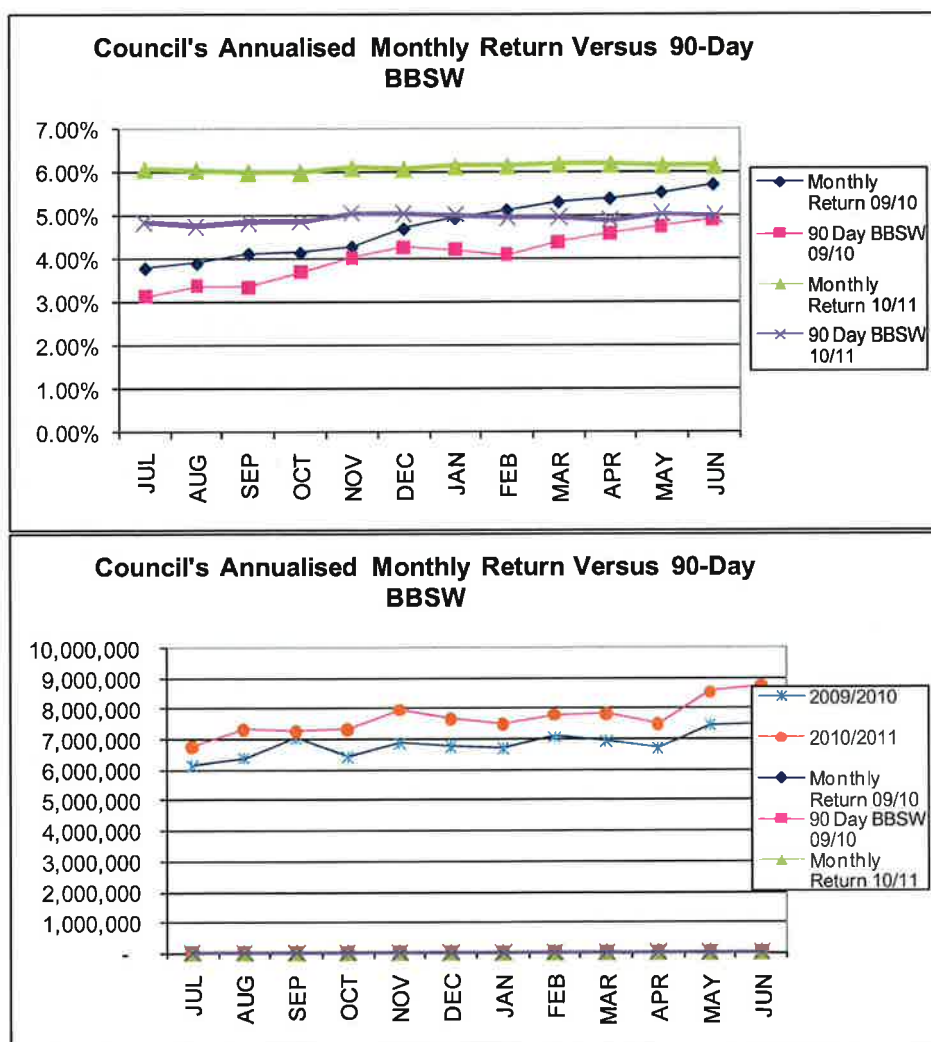
1. That the report indicating Council's Investment position as at 30 June 2011 be received and noted.
2. That the Certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the Report be adopted.

REPORT

This report provides details of Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30 June 2011.

Council's total investment and cash position as at 30 June 2011 is \$8,775,789.63. Investments earned interest of \$40,736.55 for the month of June 2011.

Council's monthly net return annualised for June of 6.15% outperformed the 90 day Bank Bill Swap Rate of 5.00%.



REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS AND CASH AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

Institution	Amount \$	Monthly Net Return Annualised
Term Deposits		
Community CPS Australia	500,000.00	6.15%
Bankstown City Credit Union	500,000.00	6.05%
Bankstown City Credit Union	500,000.00	6.05%
Credit Union Australia	500,000.00	6.12%
Queensland Country Credit Union	500,000.00	6.19%
Queensland Country Credit Union	500,000.00	6.20%
Bank of Cyprus	500,000.00	6.16%
New England Credit Union	500,000.00	6.15%
Australian Central Savings and Loans	500,000.00	6.10%
Australian Central Savings and Loans	500,000.00	6.05%
Big Sky Credit Union	500,000.00	6.10%
New England Credit Union	500,000.00	6.15%
Credit Union Australia	500,000.00	6.12%
Bank of Cyprus	500,000.00	6.16%
Total	7,000,000.00	6.13%
Collateralised Debt Obligation (CDO's)		
ANZ Custodian (Kakadu, BBSW +140 points)	500,000.00	6.24%
ANZ Custodian (Flinders, BBSW +150 points)	500,000.00	6.34%
Total	1,000,000.00	6.29%
Total Investments	8,000,000.00	6.15%
Benchmark: BBSW 90 Day Index		5.00%
Commonwealth Bank - At Call Account	306,622.31	
Commonwealth Bank Balance	469,167.32	
TOTAL INVESTMENTS & CASH	8,775,789.63	

Summary of Investment movements - JUNE			
Financial Institution	Fund Rating	Invst/(Recall) Amount \$	Commentary
Term Deposits			
Bankstown City Credit Union		500,000.00	Term Deposit Invested 07/06/2011
Bankstown City Credit Union		(507,990.41)	Term Deposit Matured 07/06/2011
Bankstown City Credit Union		500,000.00	Term Deposit Invested 14/06/2011
Bankstown City Credit Union		(508,242.74)	Term Deposit Matured 14/06/2011
Bank of Cyprus		500,000.00	Term Deposit Invested 21/06/2011
Bank of Cyprus		(508,269.59)	Term Deposit Matured 21/06/2011
Community CPS Australia		500,000.00	Term Deposit Invested 28/06/2011
Community CPS Australia		(508,185.21)	Term Deposit Matured 28/06/2011
Australian Central Savings & Loans		500,000.00	Term Deposit Invested 29/06/2011

Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDO's)

As per Council's Auditor recommendations the disclosure of the impact of market conditions on the value of the Collateralised Debt Obligations held is provided. It is estimated by ANZ Custodian Services that the market value of Flinders and Kakadu are \$433,368.49 and \$213,154.79 respectively as at 31 March 2011. It is anticipated that as the investments draw near to maturity the market values will increase. Council is also involved in ongoing legal action to minimise any losses.

Council's monthly net return annualised for June on the CDO's is 6.29% outperforming the 90 day Bank Bill Swap Rate of 5.00%.

CERTIFICATION – RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

I, Chris Hodge, certify that the investments listed in this report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council Policy.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

A good investment strategy optimises Council's return on investments.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect.

Attachments

Nil

**05) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES
TO COUNCILLORS**

(Director Corporate Services)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days.

REPORT

Council has a statutory obligation to adopt a policy concerning expenses and facilities on an annual basis pursuant to section 253 of the Local Government Act 1993. As part of this obligation Council must place it on public exhibition for 28 days prior to adoption and consider any submissions made within the time allowed and make any appropriate changes to the draft policy or amendment. Upon adoption Council must submit its policy with any submissions to the Division of Local Government.

Council's Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors as proposed has no amendments. The rate per kilometre in the Councillor Expenses Claim Form (attachment A of the policy) will be updated upon receipt of the 2011/12 rate from the Australian Taxation Office prior to adoption by Council after the exhibition period.

A copy of the Draft Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy as amended has been provided as an attachment to this business paper.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As outlined above.

Attachments

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors policy | 13
Pages |
|---|---|-------------|

06) RURAL DOCTORS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
(Director Corporate Services)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That Council send a letter of support for an urgent review of the Australian Standard Geographic Classification – Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) system to the Federal Minister and Shadow Minister for Health, and the Federal Member for Calare.

REPORT

Council is in receipt of correspondence from the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA) seeking letters of support regarding the Australian Standard Geographic Classification – Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) system.

The Federal Government introduced the ASGC-RA in June 2010 as a new system for determining the allocation of rural health programs, including incentives and subsidies. The ASGC-RA essentially divides Australia into five regions, and measures remoteness based on the physical road distance to the nearest urban centre.

The application of the ASGC-RA is important in rural and regional areas, because it determines the level of incentives that are received by doctors to relocate and remain in those areas.

A concern of the RDAA is the inequity of the arrangement as the ASGC-RA doctors in some larger regional cities, and even some wealthy suburban centres, will attract the same incentive and support payments as those doctors working in rural and remote communities.

Larger regional towns and cities can offer doctors a better lifestyle, with little or no on-call or afterhours work, and access to a wider range of services. If they can also offer the same level of government incentives as smaller rural communities, smaller communities will struggle to compete.

The RDAA is seeking a system that takes into account factors other than that based on geography such as socio-economic circumstances, the demographics and health status of the local population and the availability of health professionals. The outcome sought is one that will address the failure of the system to represent the extent of disadvantage in many of our rural communities, which generally are already struggling to attract and retain doctors.

The RDAA is requesting Council send appropriate correspondence to the Minister and Shadow Minister for Health, and local MP.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect.

Attachments

- 1 Correspondence from Rural Doctors Association of Australia 8 Pages

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ALLAN EWIN

PAGE 01/01

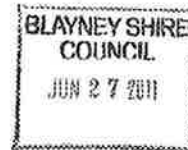
"Weston"

76 Weston Lane,

Browns Creek, 2799.

26th July, 2011

Blayney Shire Council,
General Manager,
Mr Aaron Jones,



Dear Aaron,

I wish to advise Blayney Council of my intention in asking for "Notice of Leave "
for the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Monday, 11th July, 2011.

I ask that my request be an inclusion in the July, Business paper.

Yours Faithfully,

Cr Allan Ewin.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Allan Ewin", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.



Blayney Shire Council

Policy Register

Policy No 1A

Policy Title	Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy
Document/File No	142801
Officer Responsible	Director Corporate Services
Last Review Date	11/07/2011

Objectives

Section 252 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to adopt a policy concerning the payment of expenses incurred or to be incurred by, and the provision of facilities to, the mayor, the deputy mayor and other councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

Policy Statement

Blayney Shire Council



Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy

1. OBJECTIVE OF POLICY

Section 252 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to adopt a policy concerning the payment of expenses incurred or to be incurred by, and the provision of facilities to, the mayor, the deputy mayor and other councillors (including Administrators) in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that councillors receive adequate and reasonable expenses and facilities to enable them to carry out their civic duties and that there is accountability and transparency in the payment of expenses incurred, or to be incurred by Councillors (including Administrators). The overriding principle to be addressed in the development of this policy is that the provisions of the policy meet the expectations of the local community.

This policy does not deal with matters associated with the setting and payment of annual fees to the Mayor and Councillors, which are determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Any reference hereon in this policy to Councillors will encompass Administrators.

2. STATUS OF THE POLICY

This policy has been prepared in accordance with the "Guidelines for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors in NSW" as issued by the Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet dated 7 October 2009 (Circular 09-36), and in consideration with Council's existing policy, as amended, which was last adopted by Council on 29th September 2009. (Min 09/231).

3. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

3.1. CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Requests for attending conferences shall be in writing outlining the benefits for Council. A written report shall be furnished to Council from the Councillor or staff accompanying the Councillor on the aspects of the conference relevant to council business and / or the community. No written report shall be required for the Local Government and Shires Association Annual Conference.

Council will meet the following expenses for Councillors attending conferences and seminars which have been authorised by Council resolution or by the Mayor under delegated authority.

3.1.1. Registration Fees

- i) Payment of registration fees for attendance at conference / seminar sessions.
- ii) Payment of official conference / seminar lunches and dinners, and associated tours where they are relevant to the business and interests of Council, if not covered by the registration cost.

3.1.2. Accommodation

Payment of accommodation costs on the following basis:

- i) Accommodation selected by the Council or General Manager on the basis of cost and convenience of location to the conference. A Councillor may choose accommodation at a different location but which is the same cost or less.
- ii) The number of accommodation days provided under this policy shall be limited to:
 - a. Registration day;
 - b. Each day on which official sessions of the conference / seminar are held, as well as the night preceding the conference / seminar where travelling schedules reasonably require such accommodation; and
 - c. Each day on which a Councillor is required to be accommodated en route to and from the conference / seminar.
- iii) Any additional accommodation costs incurred as a result of the attendance of partners and/or children shall be borne by the Councillor.

3.1.3. Car Parking Fees

Council shall meet the cost of the following car parking fees.

- i) Hotel / Motel parking – additional car parking fees not included in accommodation costs.
- ii) Airport parking – costs incurred in the parking of a Councillor's private vehicle at an airport for the duration of a conference / seminar, subject to the vehicle being parked in the most economical airport car park.

Reimbursement for parking expenses shall be made upon the production of appropriate receipts and tax invoices, and the completion of the required claim form. Claim for such expenses shall be made within two (2) months of the date of return from the conference / seminar.

The driver is personally liable for all traffic infringements and parking fines incurred while travelling in private or Council vehicles. Claims for reimbursement or payment of expenses shall be refused.

3.2. TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Council shall meet the expenses for Councillors attending training and professional development which have been authorised by Council resolution or by the Mayor under delegated authority, where the training or educational course is directly related to Councillors civic functions and responsibilities.

The specific expense items met by Council are the same as those applicable to "Conferences and Seminars", as listed at clause 3.1.

3.3. REIMBURSEMENT AND RECONCILIATION OF EXPENSES

Councillors seeking reimbursement of costs and expenses, incurred in accordance with the requirements of this Policy, shall only be approved upon the production of appropriate receipts and tax invoices, and the completion of the required claim form.

Claims for reimbursement of costs and expenses shall be made within two (2) months of the costs and/or expenses being incurred, unless otherwise specified within this policy.

3.4. CLAIM FORM

Provided as an attachment (Attachment A) to this Policy, is the prescribed Claim Form which shall be completed by any Councillor seeking reimbursement of their costs and expenses.

It is the responsibility of the Councillor to ensure that the Claim Form is submitted accurately and complete, and within the prescribed timeframe as required by this Policy.

Incomplete claim forms may result in costs and expenses not being reimbursed.

3.5. PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE

Councillors may request payment in advance in anticipation of expenses to be incurred in attending conferences, seminars and training away from home. Councillors may also request an advance payment for the cost of any other service or facility covered by this Policy. However, Councillors shall fully reconcile all expenses against the cost of the advance within fourteen (14) days of their return.

Note: No general allowance type payment shall be made under any circumstances.

3.6. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES FOR SPOUSES, PARTNERS AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Where the business of Council includes an invitation to a Councillor's spouse, partner or accompanying person, Council shall meet all reasonable costs associated with the spouse, partner or accompanying person attending that function.

In circumstances where an invitation is not extended to a Councillor's spouse, partner or accompanying person, that spouse, partner or accompanying person may accompany the Councillor on the business of Council, at the expense of the Councillor.

An accompanying person is a person who has a close personal relationship with the councillor and/or provides carer support to the councillor.

3.7. INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

Claims for reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket or incidental expenses incurred by a Councillor whilst attending conferences, seminars or training courses shall only be approved upon presentation of receipts and the completion of the prescribed claim form. Payments of general expense allowances shall not be permitted under this policy.

Incidental expenses could reasonably include:

Type of Expenses	Daily Limits
Taxi / Train Fares	\$50.00
Parking Fees	\$50.00
Additional Meals & Refreshments	\$35.00
Other Approved Incidentals by General Manager	\$50.00

3.8. INSURANCE

Council shall effect an appropriate level of insurance for Councillors in the following areas:

- i) Public Liability – for matters arising out of a Councillor's performance of their civic duties and/or exercise of their Council functions.
- ii) Professional Indemnity – for matters arising out of a Councillor's performance of their civic duties and/or exercise of their Council functions.
- iii) Personal Accident – coverage of Councillor and/or spouse while on Council business.
- iv) Defamation – excluding Councillor to Councillor, Councillor to Staff and Staff to Councillor.
- v) Travel – for approved travel on Council business.

Council shall meet any excess applicable under a policy for:

- Councillor and Officers – in relation to a Councillor performing their civic duties or Council functions;
- Other Insurances – in specific instances when considered necessary by the General Manager (eg travel insurance).

3.9. LEGAL EXPENSES

Council may indemnify or reimburse the reasonable legal expenses of:-

- i) A Councillor defending an action arising from the performance in good faith of a function under the Local Government Act 1993 (refer Section 731), provided that the outcome of the legal proceedings is favourable to the Councillor.
- ii) A Councillor defending an action in defamation, provided that the outcome of the legal proceedings is favourable to the Councillor.
- iii) A Councillor involved in the event of:
 - An inquiry, investigation or hearing into a Councillor's conduct by any of the following:
 - o Independent Commission Against Corruption
 - o Office of the NSW Ombudsman
 - o Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 - o NSW Police Force
 - o Director of Public Prosecutions
 - o Local Government Pecuniary Interest Tribunal
 - o Council's Conduct Review Committee / Reviewer

This is provided that the subject of the inquiry, investigation or hearing arises from the performance in good faith of a councillor's functions under the Local Government Act 1993 and the matter before the investigative or review body has proceeded past any initial assessment phase to a formal investigation or review. In the case of a conduct complaint made against a councillor, legal costs shall only be made available where a matter has been referred by the General Manager to the conduct reviewer/conduct review committee to make formal enquiries into that matter in accordance with the procedures in the Code of Conduct. In the case of a pecuniary interest or misbehaviour matter legal costs shall only be made available where a formal investigation has been commenced by the Division of Local Government.

In addition, legal costs shall only be provided where the investigative or review body makes a finding that is not substantially unfavourable to the councillor. This may include circumstances in which a matter does not proceed to a finding. In relation to a councillor's conduct, a finding by an investigative or review body that an inadvertent minor technical breach had occurred may not necessarily be considered a substantially unfavourable outcome.

Council shall not meet the legal costs of legal proceedings initiated by a Councillor under any circumstance.

Council shall not meet the legal costs of a councillor seeking advice in respect of possible defamation, or in seeking a non-litigious remedy for possible defamation.

Legal costs shall not be met for legal proceedings that do not involve a councillor performing their role as a councillor.

Council may lawfully obtain insurance cover against the risk of having to meet the reasonable legal costs of a councillor, or to reimburse those costs, provided that the costs or reimbursements are ones that it is authorised to meet.

Council may reimburse such Councillor, after the conclusion of the inquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding, for all legal expenses properly and reasonably incurred, given the nature of the inquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding, on a solicitor / client basis. Such determination shall be by resolution of Council.

3.10. CARER'S PROVISIONS

3.10.1. Carer's Expenses

Councillors who are the principal carer of a child or other elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family member shall be entitled to reimbursement of carer's expenses up to a maximum of \$1,000 per annum for attendance at Council and Committee meetings and other official civic functions noted below, plus reasonable travel from their principal place of residence. Child care expenses may be claimed for children up to and including the age of 16 years. Reimbursement of carer's expenses shall be made after submission of receipts and tax invoices and completion of the prescribed claim form. Claims for such expenses shall be made within one (1) month of the expense being incurred. Official civic functions may include:

- Attendance at Ordinary and Extraordinary meetings of Council.
- Attendance at Council Committee meetings of which the Councillor is a member.
- Attendance at Ordinary, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings of an organisation where the Councillor has, by Council resolution, been duly elected as a Council delegate.
- Attendance at inspections, within or outside the area as authorised by Council resolution or by the Mayor under delegated authority.
- Attendance at official Council functions as authorised as Council business by a resolution of Council.
- Attendance at conferences or seminars approved by Council resolution or by the Mayor under delegated authority.

- Attendance at training or professional development approved by Council resolution or by the Mayor under delegated authority.
- Attendance at functions to which the Mayor has been invited, which are attended at the request of the Mayor.

Councillors shall provide suitable evidence to the General Manager that reimbursement is applicable, such as advice from a medical practitioner in the event of caring for an adult person.

3.10.2. Expenses and Facilities for Councillors with Disabilities

In addition to the provisions of 3.10.1, for any councillor with a disability, Council may resolve to provide reasonable additional facilities and expenses, in order to allow that Councillor to perform their civic duties.

4. CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC EXPENSES FOR MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS

4.1. GENERAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

All travel by Councillors shall be undertaken by utilising the most direct route and the most practicable and economical mode of transport subject to any personal medical considerations.

Note: The driver is personally responsible for all traffic infringements and parking fines incurred while travelling in private or council vehicles on Council business.

4.2. LOCAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND EXPENSES

For the purposes of this Policy, Local Travel will include travel conducted within the following Local Government Areas:-

- Blayney
- Cowra
- Bathurst
- Orange
- Cabonne
- Wellington

For the purposes of this Policy, where Council Delegates attend meetings of the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee Inc, Local Travel will include travel conducted within, and transiting to, the Local Government Areas of the members to this Committee.

Travelling expenses within these Local Government Areas shall be paid to Councillors upon submission of the completed claim form for:

- Attendance at Council or Committee meetings;
- Undertaking approved business of the Council.

Councillors are encouraged to pool vehicles where practicable.

4.3. NON-LOCAL AND OTHER TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND EXPENSES

Payment of travelling expenses for all other travel outside of the "local area" as defined above shall be submitted to Council for consideration, and shall only be paid if approved.

All non-local and other travel should be advised to the General Manager in advance for coordination of accommodation and travel arrangements (if required). Such advice shall be on a travel authority and submitted in time for approval by Council as attached to this policy. For risk minimisation Councillors are to pool vehicles where practicable. All travel by vehicle shall be by the following priority:

- a. Council vehicle (if available)
- b. Councillor vehicle
- c. Hire vehicle

Claims for expenses incurred shall be submitted on the approved claim form as attached to this Policy, and each claim shall clearly state the purpose of the travel.

4.4. TRAVELLING EXPENSES PER KILOMETRE RATE

Approved claims for payment of travelling expenses shall be fixed at the rate per kilometre for vehicles in excess of 3 litre capacity, as determined by the Australian Taxation Office, effective from the 1st July of that financial year.

4.5. OTHER EXPENSES

Councillor claims for payment of "Other Expenses" not specifically covered by this Policy shall be presented in a report to Council for consideration, and shall only be paid if approved.

5. PROVISION OF FACILITIES

5.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The provision of facilities, equipment and services to the Mayor and Councillors shall be used by the Mayor and Councillors only for the purposes of fulfilling their civic duties and functions. However, Council acknowledges that infrequent private use of the facilities and equipment may occur.

Council facilities, equipment and services shall not be used to produce and disseminate election material, personalised pamphlets or newsletters (and the like) or material for any other political purpose.

5.2. TELEPHONE / FACSIMILE LINE

At Council's expense a separate telephone / facsimile direct line shall be connected to all Councillors' residences for Council business upon receipt of a written request from each respective Councillor. All costs associated with the operation of this line shall be paid by Council.

In circumstances where a Councillor elects not to have a separate telephone / facsimile line connected, and instead utilises their own private telephone / facsimile line, Council shall reimburse only the call costs identified by the Councillor as relating to council business. Claims for this reimbursement shall be accompanied by a copy of the telephone account for this line with each council business call highlighted.

5.3. FACSIMILE MACHINES

At the expense of Council, each Councillor shall be provided with a facsimile machine.

Maintenance and the supply of toner consumables (toner & paper) for the Council provided facsimile machines shall be provided at Council's expense.

5.4. RETURN OF FACILITIES

At the completion of their term of office

- Each Councillor shall return their facsimile machine and any other equipment to Council.
- Where a separate telephone / facsimile line had been established, this line shall be disconnected at Council's expense. However, should the Councillor wish to retain the use of this line, then at Council's expense, the line shall be transferred into the name of the Councillor.

5.5. SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

Secretarial support facilities are available to the mayor during normal office hours, through the General Manager's Executive Assistant.

ATTACHMENT A – CLAIM FORM

**BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR'S EXPENSES CLAIM FORM
2011/12**

Council has adopted a Policy for payment of expenses and provision of facilities to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

Name of Councillor: _____

TRAVEL

Date	Council Meeting/Committee/Other	Kilometres

ACCOMMODATION/ SUSTENANCE/ OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES

Please provide details and attach receipts

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Office Use Only**PAYMENT**

TRAVEL

_____ Kilometres @ \$0.75 = _____

OTHER _____ = _____

TOTAL \$ _____
=====

ATTACHMENT B – TRAVEL AUTHORITY

**BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR TRAVEL AUTHORITY
FOR NON-LOCAL AND OTHER TRAVEL**

Pursuant to the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy the following application is submitted:

Name of Councillor: _____

Purpose of Travel: _____

Date(s): _____ Time from / to: _____

Location: _____

Venue: _____

Mode of Transport: (please circle)

Air Council Vehicle Councillor Vehicle Hire Vehicle

Accommodation (if required):

Single Room: _____ Double Room

Motel preference: _____

Please provide other relevant details (e.g. special requirements):

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

(N.B. Authority should be lodged with sufficient time for Council report to be submitted.)

Office Use Only

Council meeting date: _____ Minute No.: _____

Transport: _____ Order No.: _____

Motel _____ Order No.: _____

	Date	Minute No.
First Adopted:	20/9/1999	592
Last Reviewed:	11/07/2011	
	09/05/2011	1105/007
	08/02/2010	1002/010
	29/09/2008	08/231
	12/05/2008	08/105
	14/05/2007	07/094
	12/02/2007	7
	13/08/2001	388
Next Review:	13/08/2012	



**RURAL DOCTORS
ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA**

Caring for the Country

24 June 2011

Dear Mayor and Councillors

**RE: IMPACT OF THE AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION –
REMOTENESS AREA (ASGC-RA) SYSTEM**

I write to you about the impact of the Australian Standard Geographic Classification – Remoteness Area (ASGC_RA) system on the ability of rural and remote communities to attract and retain doctors.

As you may be aware, the Federal Government introduced the ASGC-RA in June 2010 as a new system for determining the allocation of rural health programs, including incentives and subsidies. The ASGC-RA essentially divides Australia into five regions, and measures remoteness based on the physical road distance to the nearest urban centre.

The application of the ASGC-RA is important in rural and regional areas, because it determines the level of incentives that are received by doctors to relocate and remain in those areas.

RDAA has been contacted by a number of rural practices which have expressed concerns about significant anomalies arising from the application of the ASGC-RA that are impacting on the operation and viability of their practices, and their ability to attract doctors and doctors-in-training.

Under the ASGC-RA doctors in some larger regional cities - and even some wealthy suburban centres - will attract the same incentive and support payments as those doctors working in rural and remote communities. For example, Hobart (population of around 212,000), the NSW rural town of Cootamundra (population of around 5,000), and the coastal city of Mackay (population of 81,000) are all classified as inner regional under the ASGC-RA, and as such attract the same incentives and supports.

Larger regional towns and cities can offer doctors a better lifestyle, with little or no on-call or afterhours work, and access to a wider range of services. If they can also offer the same level of government incentives as smaller rural communities, smaller communities will struggle to compete.

A key shortcoming of the ASGC-RA system is that it is based on geography. It does not take into account other factors that can influence access to health care, such as socio-economic circumstances, the demographics and health status of the local population and the availability of health professionals. This means that the application of the ASGC-RA often fails to represent the extent of disadvantage in many of our rural communities, which generally are already struggling to attract and retain doctors.

ACN 062 176 863 | ABN 57062 176 863

Box 3636 Manuka ACT 2603 | Phone: 02 6239 7730 | Fax: 02 6260 7551 | Web: www.rdaa.com.au

I enclose a RDAA position paper on the ASGC-RA which provides further information on this matter.

I am sure Councillors and your wider community are aware of the important role that medical services play in the broader context of community sustainability and overall economic development. Without adequate doctors, the task of attracting a rural workforce is made even more difficult, and the viability of rural towns is placed in jeopardy.

The RDAA believes that some adjustments to the system would significantly improve outcomes for many of the towns that have been adversely impacted.

RDAA has written to the Minister to request that an independent inquiry be immediately established to:

- Consult with all stakeholders to identify the full range of anomalies which are present in the ASGC-RA system in its current form, and to obtain evidence of the current and potential impact of these anomalies on rural medical workforce recruitment and retention
- Identify the positive impacts of the current system and retain, extend and enhance these where possible
- Obtain expert advice from social demographers and other professionals regarding options for adjustments to the current system, and
- Make recommendations to the Government for appropriate adjustments

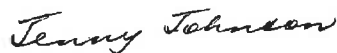
RDAA has made numerous representations both to the Minister for Health and Ageing and to the Department of Health and Ageing to request an urgent review. The response from government has been that a review will be not undertaken after the system has been in place for up to two years. However, given the concerns that have been raised by a number of stakeholders, and the importance of this issue to ongoing viability of medical services in affected rural and regional communities, we believe that this review must take place as soon as possible. We know of instances where towns affected by the RA anomalies have already lost some of their medical workforce, or are finding it even more difficult to attract doctors.

Additional advocacy and support for our request would make our case much stronger. I would be grateful if your Council would consider writing a letter of support for an urgent review of the ASGC-RA classification system, and forwarding this to the Minister and Shadow Minister for Health, and to your local MP.

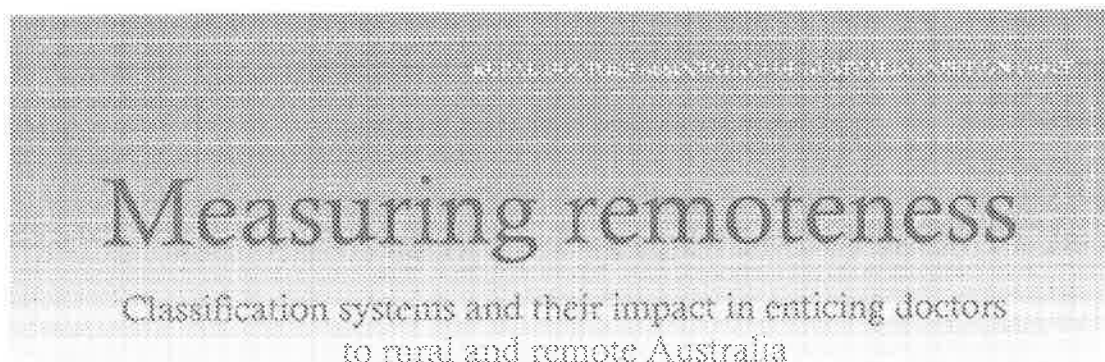
If you would like more information or to discuss this issue in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at peg@rdaa.com.au, or by telephone 02-6239 7730

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Johnson
Chief Executive Officer



Is Hobart's scenic suburb of Sandy Bay as remote as the township of Tumut cradled in the foothills of the Snowy Mountains?

The Australian Government's new system for measuring remoteness seems to think so.

Yet while Hobart is a sizeable city with a major teaching hospital providing a range of specialised services, Tumut has an ageing hospital with a maternity unit that is under frequent threat of closure.

The Australian Government uses geographical classification systems to administer a number of health programs, including relocation and retention payments for doctors working in rural towns.

It is important to get these systems right, as they can affect the allocation of incentives and subsidies designed to ameliorate the disadvantage caused by sparse population and vast distances between population centres in rural and remote Australia.

How will rural and remote communities attract and retain doctors if wealthy suburban centres and larger regional cities attract the same incentive and support payments?



What is the ASGC-RA?

The Australian Standard Geographic Classification - Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) classification system is the current system used for determining the allocation of rural health programs, including incentives and subsidies, to various locations across Australia.

The ASGC-RA essentially divides Australia into five regions - major cities, inner regional, outer regional, remote and very remote - for comparative statistical purposes. It measures remoteness based on geography - that is, the physical road distance to the nearest urban centre and how far one has to travel to access goods and services.

While RDAA recognises that no classification system will be able to provide a perfect basis for administering health programs, the ASGC-RA requires changes to ensure the system better reflects the relative needs of different communities.

A key concern is that the current design of the ASGC-RA does not enable it to provide information about the nature of the "city" or "rural" populations, nor measure health care access, detect variations of access across small areas, or measure health workforce availability.

The ASGC-RA under the microscope

The roll out of the ASGC-RA is causing significant concern among doctors in parts of rural and remote Australia, as anomalies have arisen that are likely to impact on the operation and viability of some rural practices and the sustainability of their workforce.

Under the ASGC-RA doctors in some larger regional cities - and even some wealthy suburban centres - will attract the same incentive and support payments as those doctors working in rural and remote communities. For example, Tasmania's scenic capital city of Hobart (population of around 212,000), the rural town of Cootamundra in the south western slopes of NSW (population of around 5,000), and the coastal city of Mackay (population of 81,000) in Queensland are all classified as inner regional under the ASGC-RA, and as such attract the same incentives and supports.

The ASGC-RA also ignores boundary issues that produce perverse outcomes, with some towns having multiple ASGC-RA classifications within their own boundaries.

More examples of anomalies under the ASGC-RA are set out in Appendix 1.

Looking beyond geography

There are a number of factors that influence a community's access to health services beyond geography alone. These include:

- the socio-economic circumstances of the community
- the demographics and health status of the local population (for example, whether there is a large Indigenous or aged population)
- proximity to a major service centre, and
- the availability of health professionals.

If classification systems like the ASGC-RA are unable to take these factors into account, some rural and remote locations will find it harder to attract and retain doctors, particularly doctors who perform procedural services, because they will be competing for doctors against other locations that are larger, able to offer greater attractions and supports, and the same or a higher level of incentives.

A real concern is that the new ASGC-RA could lead to significant shifts in the rural doctor workforce from underserviced areas to serviced or well-serviced areas, without an overall increase in that workforce.

What can be done?

The RDAA's position is that classification systems based on geography alone will not deliver improved access to health services for Australians living in rural and remote areas.

The RDAA calls on the Government to take the following steps:

- amend or supplement the ASGC-RA so that it better captures the capacity to measure access to health services, more appropriately classifies smaller rural communities and does not group them with large regional cities or even state capitals
- investigate the implications of the new classification system's application in areas where it is clear that other factors need to be taken into account to ameliorate disadvantage within the new system
- allow for the recognition of professional isolation of doctors and more challenging working conditions even if they are practising in towns reasonably close to a major regional centre, and
- ensure there is no loss of rural incentive payments for rural doctors performing procedural work which could discourage such doctors from working in areas where they are most needed.

The classification system must take into account geography, health workforce supply and healthcare access and be meaningful to the local community and health service providers. The system must also ensure that any two communities included in a particular grouping within a system have broadly similar characteristics in relation to their relative isolation, access to health services, health infrastructure, economic base, demography and social structure.

Boundary issues also need to be addressed to ensure that crossing an artificial boundary, such as a road, does not create significant disadvantage to people who live in close proximity to either side of that boundary. Consideration should also be given as to what level of incentive should be paid in the many situations where patients will cross classification system boundaries to obtain services. For example, patients may travel from a remote town to an outer regional town to see a GP, but while the GP is servicing a population in a remote area, he or she is receiving incentives based on the outer regional area classification.

APPENDIX 1: EXAMPLES OF ANOMALIES UNDER THE ASGC-RA

The ASGC-RA is used to determine payments under a number of health programs, including relocation and retention payments for rural doctors. The table below illustrates how the ASGC-RA produces anomalies in relation to the classification of a selection of towns and the impact of these anomalies.

TOWN	REDUCTION IN MORATORIUM FOR OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS ¹	HECS REIMBURSE- MENT SCHEME ¹	MAXIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER GPRIP ¹	RELOCATION GRANT (ONE-OFF PAYMENT PAYABLE OVER THREE YEARS) ¹	COMMENT
Balaklava SA RA2 (RRMA5) 100kms north of Adelaide Pop: 1626	10 to 9 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 5 years of continuous service.	\$12,000	\$15,000 if relocating from a RA1 location.	Small population, great difficulty in attracting doctors, and is no longer considered as remote. Currently provides after hours and inpatient care, procedural service to visiting surgeons. Difficulty attracting doctors and exemplifies how the classification does not identify the "nature of the population".
Roxby Downs RA 4 (RRMA7) Top: 4,500 257kms north of Port Augusta	10 to 6 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 3 years of continuous service.	\$27,000	\$60,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$30,000 if relocating from a RA2 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA3 location	Downgraded in terms of remoteness from very remote to remote, yet Andamooka and Woomera retain their level of remoteness. Possible negative impact on incentives and attractiveness to practise within Roxby Downs that currently provides medical care for those areas but under the new classification will become less attractive for medical practice.
Andamooka RA 5 (RRMA7) Population 800 600km north of Adelaide	10 to 5 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 2 years of continuous service.	\$47,000	\$120,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$60,000 if relocating from a RA2 location. \$30,000 if relocating from a RA3 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA4 location.	Retains level of remoteness but relies on Roxby Downs for medical support. Yet Roxby Downs under new classification will become less attractive for medical practice.

- Overseas trained doctors will have a reduction in the ten year moratorium in relation to Medicare Provider Numbers if they work in rural and remote areas.
- The HECS reimbursement scheme is part of the Rural Health Strategy which aims to promote careers in rural medicine. Eligible participants have a proportion of their HECS fees incurred for medical training reimbursed for every year of training undertaken or service provided in rural and remote areas.
- General Practice Rural Incentives Program has a GP component that provides incentive payments for GPs maintaining continuous service in rural locations. The payment scale for this program begins with incentives for GPs who have worked for six months in a RA3-RA5 location. Incentives are then paid for each subsequent year of service in a rural and remote area according to ASGC-RA location up to a ceiling category of five years or more.
- The relocation grant refers to the Rural Relocation Incentive Grant, which is a component of the General Practice Rural Incentives Program. This one-off grant is provided to eligible GPs and specialists who relocate to a more remote area than the one within which they have been practising for the past 12 months. The grant is based on full time work at the new location for a period of at least three years, and paid in two instalments. Eligible doctors must meet the programs continuous service requirements. The amount of the grant depends on the ASGC-RA category the doctor is leaving and the ASGC-RA category the doctor is moving to.

TOWN	REDUCTION IN MORATORIUM FOR OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS	HECS REIMBURSE- MENT SCHEME	MAXIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER GPRIP	RELOCATION GRANT (ONE-OFF PAYABLE OVER THREE YEARS)	COMMENT
Townsville RA3 (RRMA2) Pop: 170,000,	10 7 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 4 years of continuous service.	\$18,000	\$30,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA2 location.	Coastal city and large service centre inclusive of hospital, pathology services etc. New classifications will mean a GP in Townsville receives same incentives as small isolated towns such as Dysart and Moranbah. When comparing the three towns why would a doctor want to practise in smaller centres compared to the larger service centre of Townsville? A GP in Townsville will receive the same incentive payments as a GP in Moranbah coal mining town, population of 7,200.
Moranbah RA3 (RRMA6) Pop: 8000 Around 200kms south-west of Mackay	10 7 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 4 years of continuous.	\$18,000	\$30,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA2 location.	Now has the same classification as Townsville (RA3) but with less facilities and less attractive for medical practice.
Cherbourg RA2&RA3 (RRMA5) Pop: 1241 Around 230 kms north-west of Brisbane	10 9 yrs or 10 7 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 4 (RA3) or 5 (RA2) years of continuous service.	\$12,000 (RA2) or \$18,000 (RA3)	RA 2: \$15,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. RA 3: \$30,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA2 location.	More remote, smaller population than Townsville but with some part of the town with the same classification. Hospital is RA2 - other sections of the town are RA3.
Murgon RA3 (RRMA5) Pop: 3800 Around 6kms from Cherbourg	10 7 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 4 years of continuous service.	\$18,000	\$30,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA2 location.	Has a larger population, is less remote and smaller indigenous population than Cherbourg, yet classified the same as Cherbourg and Townsville.

TOWN	REDUCTION IN MORATORIUM FOR OTDS	HECS REIMBURSE- MENT SCHEME	MAXIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER GPRIP	RELOCATION GRANT (ONE-OFF PAYMENT PAYABLE OVER THREE YEARS)	COMMENT
Cloncurry RA4 (RRMA 7) Pop: 4,500 Around 770 kms west of Townsville	10 to 6 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 3 years of continuous service.	\$27,000	\$60,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$30,000 if relocating from a RA2 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA3 location.	Isolated inland town: 1000km from the coast IMG with FRACGP or FACRRM and permanent residency now will have to work 6 years in Cloncurry (previously 4 years), reduces the attractiveness of the town.
Mackay RA2 (RRMA3) Pop: 81,148 Around 970kms north of Brisbane	10 to 9 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 5 years of continuous service.	\$12,000	\$15,000 if relocating from a RA1 location.	Mackay has a base hospital offering a number of specialist services but has difficulty attracting doctors. It is now classified as less remote, yet is surrounded by a RA3 region. Townsville is classified as more remote than Mackay, yet has double the population, a large tertiary teaching hospital, university and other services associated with a large service centre.
Gundagai RA2 (RRMA5) Pop: 2500 Around 95 km from Canberra	10 to 9 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 5 years of continuous service.	\$12,000	\$15,000 if relocating from a RA1 location.	Located 398kms from Sydney. Limited facilities eg access to tertiary education; ageing population, 12% decrease in population in last twenty years, declining rural sector. Gundagai has difficulty attracting doctors yet classified the same as Sandy Bay, Tasmania. This anomaly also applies to Coolamundra, Tumut, Young and Cowra.
Sandy Bay Hobart RA2 (RRMA1) Pop: 11,400	"	"	"	"	Suburb of city of Hobart, younger population than Gundagai, higher than average incomes, access to tertiary education yet classified same as Gundagai.
Mattra RA2 (RRMA5) 220km east of Melbourne Pop: 4,200	10 to 9 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 5 years of continuous service.	\$12,000	\$15,000 if relocating from a RA1 location.	Small dairy farming community in Gippsland, 24km from Sale (pop 13,000). Mattra District Hospital has 9 acute/sub-acute care beds and 30 high care residential aged care places.

TOWN	REDUCTION IN MORATORIUM FOR OTDS	HECS REIMBURSE- MENT SCHEME	MAXIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER GPRIP	RELOCATION GRANT (ONE-OFF PAYMENT PAYABLE OVER THREE YEARS)	COMMENT
Kaniva RA3 (RRMA7) Pop: 1,000 Located 413km northwest of Melbourne and 313km southeast of Adelaide.	10 to 7 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 4 years of continuous service.	18,000	\$30,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA2 location.	Small small country town on the far west border of Victoria, situated approximately half way between Melbourne and Adelaide. Previously classified as remote, now classified as outer regional. Kaniva has the same classification as Horsham, a larger town of 55,500 people located 113 km to the south east of Kaniva.
Colac RA2 (RRMA 4) Pop: 10,800 Located 148km southwest of Melbourne.	10 to 9 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 5 years of continuous service.	\$12,000	\$15,000 if relocating from a RA1 location.	Colac is one of many rural Victorian towns to be reclassified as inner regional, and which now has to compete for doctors with towns such as Whitlessa, Bacchus March and Healsville, which are located on the fringes of Melbourne but also classified as inner regional.
Rottnest Island RA4 (RRMA1) Pop: 1300 Tourist influx seasonal Located 19km west of Fremantle.	10 to 6 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 3 years of continuous service.	27,000	\$60,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$30,000 if relocating from a RA2 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA3 location.	Tourist destination close to Fremantle and Perth yet now classified as more remote than Kalgoorlie.
Kalgoorlie RA3 (RRMA6) Located 703 kms east of Perth	10 to 7 yrs	Full reimbursement can be provided over 4 years of continuous service.	18,000	\$30,000 if relocating from a RA1 location. \$15,000 if relocating from a RA2 location.	Mining community with facilities yet remote distance from Perth, and fewer incentives than Rottnest.

Note: This table only provides an overview of information about rural incentives. For more detailed information, go to: <http://www.doctorsassociation.org.au>.

ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORTS
PRESENTED TO THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2011



07) PROPOSED FUN RUN - ST JOSEPHS PRIMARY SCHOOL
(Director Engineering)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That Council approves the undertaking of the 2011 St Josephs Primary School fun run subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Development and implementation of a Traffic Management Plan which shall include a Traffic Control Plan.
 - b. All appropriate road closures and associated warning signage complying with AS1742, will be undertaken, placed and removed by suitably qualified persons.
 - c. Approval is to be obtained from NSW Police, with all conditions and directions issued by Police complied with and obeyed.
 - d. Council is to be provided with a copy of a \$20M Public Liability Insurance Policy indicating Blayney Shire Council's interests, with the date and location of the event.
 - e. The event organiser is to notify all Emergency Services of the event including Blayney Hospital.
 - f. The Event Organiser is to notify all business proprietors and residents affected by the event at least seven (7) days prior to the event.
 - g. The Event Organiser will, with the assistance of Blayney Shire Council, Engineering Department, advertise the temporary road closures, at least seven (7) days prior to the event.
 - h. The Event Organiser is to comply with the requirements of the "Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events" (version 3.4) dated 2 August 2006, for a Class 3 event.
2. The temporary closure of Adelaide Street from the Mid Western Highway to Glasson Street, Glasson Street, Hill Street from Adelaide Street to its western end, Gerty Street, Marshalls Lane from the western side of the intersection with Radburn Street to its most northern end, Lawson Street, Tolbar Street and Lowe street, between 9.00am and 11.30am Sunday 20 November 2011.

REPORT

Traffic Matters

Council has been approached by The St Joseph's Primary School Parents and Friends Association, seeking approval to undertake a fun run event in the Blayney Industrial area. The proposal is to undertake two events, a short and long course, both commencing and finishing at the school crossing located in

Adelaide Street immediately outside the school. The events consist of the following:-

- a) Long Course, Class 3. A fun run from Adelaide Street, travelling to the Blayney Showground via Hill and Gerty Streets and Marshalls Lane, then along Lawson Street to the northern most point on Marshalls Lane and return along Lowe Street and down the unformed road reserve below the Rotary lookout, to Gerty Street and return to the finish line in Adelaide Street. This event is proposed to start at 9:15am.
- b) Short Course Class 3. A fun run from Adelaide Street, travelling to Marshalls Lane via Gerty Street, then Lawson Street to the intersection with Marshalls Lane, South along Lowe Street and down the unformed road reserve below the Rotary lookout, to Gerty Street and return to the finish line in Adelaide Street. This event is proposed to start at 9:30am.

A review of the proposed route (**attached**) was undertaken by Council staff and the Event Organiser, to determine the suitability of the route, and identify any potential issues. In liaison with the Roads and Traffic Authority and NSW Police, it was agreed the most satisfactory option was to undertake the temporary closure of affected roads, and for parking to be provided for event participants within the existing vacant block alongside the old convent. Further investigation by the Event Organiser has identified the use of the Nixons Transport forecourt and hard stand for overflow parking. Information provided to Council is that this was acceptable to Mr Nixon.

On behalf of the Event Organiser, Council provided correspondence to all residents/business owners in the affected area, to identify any potential disruption to service(s) that the proposal may cause. As of Friday 10 June 2011, Council had received comment from two organisations, being Central Tablelands Water identifying no concerns and Essential Energy who requested that in the event of an emergency they be provided with access to their field depot, or the relevant site.

It is proposed to provide further correspondence to affected residents/business owners upon acceptance of this report and for the event to be advertised in the Blayney Chronicle in the week pre-ceding the event.

Under the Roads and Traffic Authority "Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events" (version 3.4) dated 2 August 2006, the Long and Short Course events are defined as Class 3 which requires the Council and NSW Police consent. The matter was therefore referred to the Blayney Local Area Traffic Committee for consideration, and therefore recommends that Council approve the undertaking of the 2011 St Joseph's Primary School fun run, subject to the following conditions.

- i. Development and implementation of a Traffic Management Plan which shall include a Traffic Control Plan.

- j. All appropriate road closures and associated warning signage complying with AS1742, will be undertaken, placed and removed by suitably qualified persons.
- k. Approval is to be obtained from NSW Police, with all conditions and directions issued by Police complied with and obeyed.
- l. Council is to be provided with a copy of a \$20M Public Liability Insurance Policy indicating Blayney Shire Council's interests, with the date and location of the event.
- m. The event organiser is to notify all Emergency Services of the event including Blayney Hospital.
- n. The Event Organiser is to notify all business proprietors and residents affected by the event at least seven (7) days prior to the event.
- o. The Event Organiser will, with the assistance of Blayney Shire Council, Engineering Department, advertise the temporary road closures, at least seven (7) prior to the event.
- p. The Event Organiser is to comply with the requirements of the "Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events" (version 3.4) dated 2 August 2006, for a Class 3 event.

Road Closure

The proposed running of the 2011 St Joseph's Primary School Fun Run requires the temporary closure of the following public roads, between 9.00am and 11.30am Sunday 20 November 2011.

- Adelaide Street from the Mid Western Highway to Glasson Street,
- Glasson Street,
- Hill Street from Adelaide Street to its western end,
- Gerty Street,
- Marshalls Lane from the western side of the intersection with Radburn Street to its most northern end,
- Lawson Street,
- Tolbar Street, and,
- Lowe Street.

Council's 2011-2016 Management Plan identifies the current fee for the advertising of the temporary road closure to be \$155.00 Inc GST.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The fee for undertaking of Public Notification of Road Closure is in accordance with Council's 2011 – 2016 Fees and Charges.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect

Attachments

- 1 St Joseph's Fun Run - Route Map

08) **PROPOSED SCHOOL BUS ROUTE EXTENSION - LONG SWAMP ROAD**
(Director Engineering)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the report of the Blayney Traffic Committee be received and Council approves the application for a school bus route extension along Long Swamp Road from Carbine Road into Cabonne Shire, subject to the following conditions
 - a. Bus stops at individual properties is restricted and shall be formally assessed by Blayney Shire Council prior to approval being granted.
 - b. Approval being provided by Cabonne Council.

REPORT

Council has received an application by Cooks Bus Services in relation to its existing Forest Reefs to Orange No.2 school bus service, to extend it further West along Long Swamp Road into the Cabonne Shire, and return.

The applicant currently operates two services into Orange with the subject service being from the intersection of Carbine and Long Swamp Roads into Orange via Spring Terrace. It is proposed to extend the route West along Long Swamp Road across Flyers Creek and into Cabonne Shire to pick up an existing student and then turn around before commencing the run into Orange. The run would continue to be serviced by the existing 43 seat (10.5m) bus, with a 56 seat (12.5m) bus being put in service in the event of mechanical breakdown.

The approval for bus stop locations is regulated by *Clause 104(2) of the Passenger Transport Regulation 2007*.

104 Appointment of bus stops

(1) The Director-General may appoint bus stops, to be indicated by signs erected or displayed with the approval of the roads authority for the road concerned and on which the words "BUS STOP", "BUS STAND" or "BUS ZONE", or some suitable pictorial representation, appear.

(2) An operator of a bus service may appoint bus stops, but only in accordance with a prior written approval of the roads authority for the road concerned.

(3) If times are specified on a sign referred to in this clause, the sign operates only during those times, but if no times are so specified the sign operates at all times.

*(4) In this clause, **roads authority** has the same meaning as it has in the Roads Act 1993.*

Therefore, all requests for bus stops must be directed to the local Roads Authority, in this instance Blayney Shire Council.

It is the responsibility of the local Roads Authority in consultation with the Local Area Traffic Committee to assess all rural school bus routes and bus stops for use.

In assessing the route, Council staff have adopted the “Guidelines for Rural School bus Routes and Stops”; a document prepared by the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC), as the most suitable document for assessment. Council staff in conjunction with Cabonne Council staff, have also undertaken an inspection of the route and the proposed stop.

The guidelines state that the following factors shall be taken into consideration when determining the suitability of a proposed school bus route:

- Road geometry
- Pavement width
- Pavement surface
- Carrying capability of the route (bus size)
- Grade
- Climatic conditions
- If the route is being used by more than two school bus services, in either the same direction or opposing directions at the same time of day.
- If the route is highly used by heavy vehicles, tourist vehicles etc.
- General traffic volumes

The assessment should determine the maximum sized bus able to be operated on the route (the route’s carrying capacity).

As the proposed pick up point was not within Blayney Shire, it has not been considered as part of this assessment and is a matter for Cabonne Council. Any future pick up points within Blayney Shire, on the route would need to be assessed on an individual basis.

The route along Long Swamp Road has a variable seal width with a minimum of 7m, and includes a down hill and curved alignment to Flyers Creek that adequately cater for a 10.5m school bus, as proposed.

Based upon previous experience and correspondence to Council the road is subject to flash flooding at Flyers Creek, and in the recent events of September and December 2010 was closed for short periods of up to 12 – 24 hours.

Data collected in March 2008, from a Council installed traffic counter located on Long Swamp Road determined that 315 vehicles per day utilise Long Swamp Road, with a 6% heavy vehicle component. In accordance with the REROC Guidelines, this is classified as a medium volume road.

It is noted that correspondence received from Cabonne Council, following the site inspection by both organisations, is that the route (within Cabonne LGA)

is suitable for a small bus only with a speed restriction below 80km/hr. It has been assessed as being a narrow well gravelled formation, with the winding alignment and low sight distance being offset by the very low traffic volume.

As Blayney Shire Council is only able to consider the route within its LGA, it is therefore recommended that Council approve the application for the extension of the existing route along Long Swamp Road from Carbine Road into Cabonne Shire, subject to the following conditions.

- a. Bus stops at individual properties is restricted and shall be formally assessed by Blayney Shire Council prior to approval being granted.
- b. Approval being provided by Cabonne Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil effect

Attachments

Nil



Important Notice!
This map is not a precise survey document. Accurate locations can only be determined by a survey on the ground.
The above information has been taken from Council's records, but Council cannot accept responsibility for any omission or inaccuracy. © The State of New South Wales (Department of Lands) 2007, © Breamy Shire Council 2007

[illegible]

Material	Steel
Designation	ASTM A36
Properties	Yield strength: 36 ksi Tensile strength: 58-80 ksi Elongation: 21% min
Cost	\$0.50/lb
Weight	150 lb
Volume	30 in ³
Surface Area	100 in ²

St Josephs Primary School P and C

Map Scale: 1:11,280 at A4
Map Zoom: 1.94 m

COMMITTEE REPORTS
PRESENTED TO THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2011



09) LACHLAN REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - 7 MAY 2011
(Acting General Manager)

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the Minutes of the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee, held on Saturday 7 May 2011, be received and noted.

REPORT

The Lachlan Regional Transport Committee held their meeting on Saturday 7 May 2011, at Katoomba. A copy of the minutes from this meeting is provided as an attachment to this business paper. Crs Bell and Braddon were in attendance.

The next meeting of the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee is to be held at the Blayney Bowling Club on Saturday 27 August, 2011.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council hosts a meeting each year and there is funding available for the costs associated with this committee.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Nil effect.

Attachments

- 1 Lachlan Regional Transport Minutes 3 Pages

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Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee held at Katoomba on Saturday 7th May 2011

Cr Daniel Myles, Mayor of the Blue Mountains, welcomed the meeting to the Blue Mountains.

Apologies: P. Stendell, D. Palmer, S. Freudenstein, J. Laybutt, H. Mansfield, B. Ryan, B. Williamson, J. Faulks, D. Hyde, H. Holmes, G. Knowles, G. Braithwaite, L. Rhiannon, J. Toohey, N. Milliken, R. Bailey, N. Castle, J. Smith, J. Hannon, J. Slobbe, Hon. M. Vietch, M. Sweeney, J. Kenworthy, D. Figliomeni, B. West, R. Sage, L. Markus, G. Berejikian, J. Buckingham, L. Markus. Acceptance moved G. Standen, seconded P. Trevaskis. **Carried.**

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held in Mudgee on 5th February were reviewed. Acceptance moved P. Trevaskis, seconded J. Palmer-Frederick. **Carried.**

Business arising from the minutes:

I. Gray reported on his investigation into the grain freight cost problem associated with railway branch line closures and how the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee might plan to intervene in the issue. Ian explained that equivalent rail freight tasks can be done at about half the cost of road freight where branch line services are available, and although only about 6 per cent of rail maintenance costs are recovered from users of the branch lines, they can still be cheaper than roads. He added that the future of branch lines used for grain can be determined by the availability of non-grain traffic. Ian recommended that the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee tries to ensure that future government reviews and assessments of branch lines take into account all relevant benefits and costs. The Committee might also assist with planning for new traffic, help potential rail users to obtain services and assist with coordination among local industry, transport operators and the rail track authority.

R. Staples mentioned that the RTA has a coordinator based in Parkes who provides information to Councils, but there is no equivalent person for railway issues.

Moved M. Simpson, seconded G. Standen that the Committee ask I. Gray to take steps towards preparing a manual and conducting a workshop for members and other interested parties to assist them with efforts to ensure the continued provision of rail freight services so that transport costs can be kept as low as is reasonably possible. **Carried.**

Council Reports:

Blue Mountains (T. Gibbs). The Blue Mountains City Council is not to form a transport committee as earlier proposed. The Great Western Highway upgrade is affecting tourism and the Council is seeking acceleration of the upgrading work.

P. Trevaskis reported that more train services are needed across the Blue Mountains and some additional train services are anticipated following a promise by the new State Government, but expansion is limited by track constraints in Sydney. Extra services are more likely to be obtained by changing stopping patterns. The New South Wales Government is working on a freight policy and RailCorp is investigating a replacement for the XPT trains. Paul also reported that he is not standing again for the position of secretary of the Blue Mountains Commuters and Transport Users Association.

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Weddin (M. Simpson). The five councils working on the Blayney-Demondrille line reopening are to meet with the new Transport Minister at the end of May. There are possibilities for rail freight indicated in the Young area. G. Standen moved, M. Simpson seconded: that LRTC encourage its members, who are also members of CENTROC, to urge CENTROC to support the reinstatement of the Blayney-Demondrille line.

Blayney (G. Braddon). Rail links with industry are being developed in Blayney. 200 mine workers are to be accommodated in Blayney, potentially increasing the need for passenger transport.

Cabonne (R. Staples). There is a widening funding gap for local roads which councils should bring to the attention of governments, particularly the Federal Government. The State Government has promised funding for the Cargo Road rail over-bridge. Rail and road authorities are to develop an interface agreement for level crossings and bridges which will have an impact on local government.

M. Simpson mentioned that the NSW Government intends to take steps to facilitate the coordination of road and rail.

Mid-Western (R. Holden). Local government is being under-funded for the repair of flood-damaged roads. \$3.4m are being provided for \$12m worth of work. There is debate in Mudgee about the installation of traffic lights. The RTA wants them installed but the Council is divided. R. Holden opposes the plan, seeing it as 'the thin end of the wedge'. The Cobora coal mine development has been put on hold, but other mines are going ahead and may use rail to move coal from the Bylong Valley to Port Kembla. This is likely to help the case for reopening the line through Mudgee. The adequacy of crossing loops, safety and capacity for non-coal traffic are being considered.

Max Duffey reported for the Lachlan Valley Railway that they had been obliged to move a locomotive from Cowra to Bathurst by road.

Correspondence including the LRTC submission to Infrastructure Australia:

Acceptance moved G. Braddon, seconded G. Standen. Carried.

M. Simpson mentioned that there may be concern among some councils that council representatives on the Committee not commit their councils to any particular views or actions. Representatives cannot commit a council to action but can take a recommendation back to their councils.

Treasurer's Report:

Including expenses of \$595.05 to be paid. Acceptance moved G. Standen, seconded P. Trevaskis. Carried.

General Business:

M. Duffey reported that governments are meeting to establish common truck regulations by 2013.

P. Trevaskis reported on a proposal to change the XPT schedules to Bathurst. R. Holden said that this may be pursued more strongly as a former Mayor of Bathurst in now a member of the State Government. G. Standen pointed out that changes are constrained by the reduction of track infrastructure – some double track is now single, and that a hub for new coach services is needed in Bathurst. R. Holden added that State Government policy is now to reintegrate passenger services to Mudgee with other services. G. Standen moved, J. Palmer-Frederick seconded: that LRTC hold a rail forum in Bathurst, at a date to be fixed later this year, to bring public transport

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concerns to the attention of the government, with the Transport Minister and Minister for Western New South Wales to be invited. **Carried.**

E. Gibbs reported increasing community concern about freight on roads over the Blue Mountains, including impacts on tourism in the higher and lower Mountains areas.

D. Myles reported that there had been deaths on roads in the Blue Mountains which could be directly attributed to the increasing number of trucks on the roads. This is a matter of serious concern for Blue Mountains residents and it appears that transport policy is being made behind closed doors.

G. Dun suggested that the railway line proposed between Mary Vale and Gulgong should be completed so that traffic can go more directly by rail from the Dubbo region to Newcastle.

G. McKenzie suggested that there should be further investigation of road/railers to help integrate road and train freight services and make the most of rail infrastructure.

M. Duffey reported, and G. Standen discussed a possibility that the Nyngan-Bourke railway line could be reinstated. M. Duffey also reported discussion with the CEO of Alkaine, who is seeking support from LRTC. M. Simpson moved, G. Standen seconded: that LRTC should wait to receive correspondence before arranging a meeting with Alkaine. **Carried.**

B. Holland reported that an XPT has been found to have departed from Harden early and other services have run very late. G. Standen moved, M. Simpson seconded: that LRTC write to the NSW Transport Minister raising the issue of late, and early, XPT services. B. Holland to provide particulars of trains, dates and times.

D. Smith reported that the Mount Victoria Community Association is seeking to have more freight placed on rail to alleviate truck traffic in the Mount Victoria area. The Association favoured the Marrangaroo route for the proposed new Bell's Line of Road. G. Dun reported that the RTA is hindering public input into planning for a new Bell's Line of Road. M. Simpson mentioned that CENTROC is involved and that the RTA is indicating a start on building the road in 2030.

E. Gibbs suggested that LRTC further pursue development of its own website, and indicated willingness to assist. I. Gray reported that contact had been made with Cowra Shire Council through Lawrance Ryan, and support from that Council was anticipated, but no further progress had been made. Moved E. Gibbs, seconded G. Braddon: that a subcommittee be formed to establish a website. Moved M. Simpson, seconded E. Gibbs: that E. Gibbs, I. Gray, N. Milliken, R. Holden, M. Duffey and G. Dun be invited to join the website sub-committee.

Next meeting

Moved G. Braddon seconded G. Standen: the next meeting, which will include the AGM, will be held in Blayney on Saturday 27 August. **(Confirmed)**

The meeting closed at 12.45pm.

QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE
PRESENTED TO THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JULY 2011



10

ONGOING FUNDING OF THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Cr Geoff Braddon)

Mr Mayor

Will you guarantee that you will not support an extension of the existing special rate or a new rate variation to fund the ongoing maintenance or depreciation of the new Community Centre?

Attachments

Nil

CR BR Kingham
MAYOR

Mr GS Baker
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER