

**INFORMATION REPORTS**



## DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS – AUGUST 2017

Below is a list of Development Applications determined during the month of August 2017.

<b>DA No.</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Determination Date/Method</b>	<b>Type: DA/CC, Mod, s68, s96 etc.</b>
2016/0098/1	Alter Conditions of Consent	64-68 Victoria Street, Millthorpe	3 August 2017 Under Delegation	Mod
2017/0058	Erection of a Dwelling Shed & Watertank	56 Richards Lane Millthorpe	14 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0059	Installation of a Relocated Dwelling and Construction of a Retaining Wall	4 Stirling Place, Blayney	14 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/S68
2017/0062	Alterations and Additions to an Existing Dwelling	51 Convent Lane, Forest Reefs	14 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/S68
2017/0050	Alterations & Additions to an Existing Dwelling	166 Forest Reefs Road, Millthorpe	18 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC/S68
2017/0070	Erection of a Shed	19 Polona Street, Blayney	18 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0069	Two Lot Subdivision	9 Polona Street, Blayney	22 August 2017 Under Delegation	Subdivision
2017/0074	Section 68 - Onsite Septic	238 Bakers Road, Burnt Yards	22 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/S68
2017/0075	Erection of a Carport	20 Rowlands Street, Blayney	22 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0076	Erection of Shed	19 Raphael Street, Blayney	22 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0022	Erection of a Cottage	16 Collins Street, Carcoar	23 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC/S68
2017/0044	Erection of a Dwelling & Garage/Carport	28 Icely Street, Carcoar	24 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0065	Erection of a Sign	1553 Burnt Yards Road, Errowanbang	28 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2016/0098/2	Alter Conditions of Consent	64-68 Victoria Street, Millthorpe	29 August 2017 Under Delegation	Mod
2017/0072	Patio Addition	10 Johnston Cr, Blayney	30 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0073	Erection of a Patio	190 Nyes Gates Road, Millthorpe	30 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC

2017/0079	Replace Existing Footpath Steps with Compliant Pedestrian Ramp & Footpath	29 Park Street, Millthorpe	30 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC
2017/0083	Internal Alterations to an Existing Dwelling	12 Carcoar Road, Forest Reefs	31 August 2017 Under Delegation	CDC
2017/0077	Erection of a Shed with an Open Lean-to	98 Charles Booth Way, Millthorpe	31 August 2017 Under Delegation	DA/CC

Copies of the consents are available for public inspection, free of charge, during ordinary business hours at Council's Planning and Environmental Services Department.

# LACHLAN REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

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## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in Parkes at the Astro Dish Motor Inn Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

Chairman Dom Figliomeni opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Mayor Ken Keith to welcome all on behalf of Parkes Shire Council gave a short report on the infrastructure in progress in the shire being new sewage works, infiltration plant and bypass around Parkes.

**ATTENDANCE:** As per the attendance book. Twenty three in attendance.

**APOLOGIES:** Mark Coulton, Philip Donato, Lawrance Ryan, Max Duffey, Philip Laird, Annie Chatfield, Stuart Freudenstein, Craig Bembrick, Bill West, Michael O’Leary, Tekohi Rivera, Stephen O’Byrne, Warwick Erwin, Paul Sills, Gordon Bradbery. Total 15.

**MOVED:** Maurice Simpson. **SECONDED:** John Hetherington **CARRIED**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Held at Canowindra in May be accepted as read.

**Moved:** Ken McGrath **Seconded:** Ray Morris **CARRIED.**

**BUSINESS ARISING:** Nil

**SECRETARYS REPORT:** No Report

**CORRESPONDENCE: IN:** Garry Braithwaite Newspaper clipping re: Alkane progress  
Philip Laird re: South West Illawarra Rail link and the speeding up of  
trains to Newcastle, Wollongong and Yass.  
Also the Melbourne to Brisbane construction standard

**OUT:** Andrew Constance Minister for Transport and Infrastructure  
Darren Chester  
Gabrielle Upton  
Annie Chatfield’s report sent Anthony Albanese

**MOVED:** Judith Hannan That the Correspondence be received and dealt with

**SECONDED:** Ray Morris **CARRIED**

### **TREASURERS REPORT:**

The Treasurer Dennis Hughes presented the Treasurer’s Report Opening Balance at the 1/5/17 \$10699.98. Income \$380.26 Expenses \$100.00 Closing Balance as at the 31/7/17 \$10980.24 **Moved:** D Hughes **Seconded:** Ken McGrath **CARRIED.**

**REPORTS: PARKES:** Ken Keith – Parkes new water and sewage plants to come on line in the near future. Signed up to the cities power partnership with 30 other councils for the new solar farm to power 30000 homes, won the best community communication award in Sydney. He reported on the progress of the Inland Railway and the Hub and a new bypass around Parkes on the western side of the Town.

**Philip Laird:** Written report re the Inland Rail. "Future proofing" allowing for 30 tonne axle loads and 3600 metre long crossing loops later. 60 kg per metre rail be used rather than the light weight 50 kg/m as used on the Darwin line.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That LRTC urges reconsideration of the use of current ARTC standards for new sections of track on the Inland Rail between Melbourne, Parkes and Brisbane, and request urgent consideration the use of 60 kg per metre rail, a minimum curve radius of 1200 metres and crossing loops of length at least 2700 metres for new sections of track; and, that construction be expedited.

**Pascale Stendell** - Happy to see the web site improving and upgraded, requested links to more Councils and to MPs and how are we going to advertise that for the wider community to use.

**Ian Gray** - Reported that there could be more done with the home page with recent reports and history which he will work on.

**Judith Hannan Wollondilly:** Wilton may become a fordable housing for Sydney as it is on all four corners of the land there. Council have been pushing for electrification down to Picton and Wilton. Clara and Centurion are talking about high speed rail from Wilton to Canberra in 20 minutes without stops. Wilton will be the central point in NSW where centralisation of the fast rail and the Illawarra will occur this will link Badgerys Creek to Sydney to Illawarra to Canberra. SWIRL now need the Maldon – Dombarton line to be completed. There will be a rail symposium in October to bring all relevant and interested parties together. The symposium be held at the Rail Museum with the objective being to create a master plan for the whole area. **MOVED:** Judith Hannan That a letter be sent to the Ministers John Barilaro, Anthony Roberts and Andrew Constance regarding the planning of Wilton and Badgerys Creek area. **SECONDED:** Maurice Simpson **CARRIED**

**Bede Ryan:** No electrification to Canberra or the High-Lands but fast tilt trains to Canberra.

**Eddie Wilkinson:** Discussion on tilt trains.

**WEDDIN:** Maurice Simpson on behalf of Weddin that Weddin had received grants for the Pool, Medical Centre and the Sewage Plant.

**Dubbo:** Garry Brathwaite reported on the Bypass for Dubbo and the Rail Line for the Alkane and Toongi line. Garry to have talks with Alkane Management to find out if LRTC can help in anyway. **MOVED:** Garry Brathwaite: A Letter be sent to the Minister for Planning & Transport regarding community concern. **SECONDED:** Maurice Simpson **CARRIED:**

**COWRA:** Bill West: Written report from Bill West re: Blayney – Demondrille line and the Maldon – Dombarton Line. He requested if anybody had heard anything about the status of the Ken Gillespie Report on broad infrastructure issues not just rail. (See Ministerial response)

**TEMORA SHIRE COUNCIL:** Robert Fisher: Still working on Bypass around the CBD and requesting information on the Fuel Levey. Rerock met with Minister for Emergency Services

to discuss natural disaster relief and guide lines. Roads to Recovery Funding still a very important funding source for small councils.

**LACHLAN VALLEY RAIL:** Ray Morris: Still trying to open the Rail Line from Cowra to Woodstock for tourism.

**LACHLAN:** Ken Keith on behalf of Lachlan: A major Cobalt, Nickel and Scandium mine has been approved by State Government for a 40 year life.

**KEN KEITH:** Presented a video presentation promoting Parkes and the Shire.

**Philip Laird:** Recommended a submission from the Wollongong Transport Coalition for LRTC to give support to the Maldon – Dombarton line and the issues of trucks traffic on Mount Ousley **MOVED:** Eddy Wilkinson That LRTC support Philip’s submission **SECONDED:** Maurice Simpson **CARRIED**

**MOVED:** Maurice Simpson That the submission be sent to the Minister for Transport.

**SECONDED:** John Faulks **CARRIED**

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**IAN GRAY:** Discussed the network of Regional Rail Action of NSW:- Orange Rail Action Group, Southern Tablelands Rail User Group, Border Rail Action Group. Ian attended a meeting at Goulburn which he reported on and will receive the report from that meeting.

**MOVED:** Maurice Simpson That Ian Gray be the LRTC representative at any further Rail Action group meetings.

**SECONDED:** Ian Gray **CARRIED**

Discussion on how the LRTC can share information with other rail and road groups.  
Web site links to Councils be looked into.

**Bede Ryan:** Spoke on the condition of the Parkes to Narromine railway bends and bridges.

**Ken Keith:** Gave a short report on the Bell’s Line of Road upgrade and to secure the corridor for that road over the mountain.

Discussion on a \$500 million machine to repair and maintain rail lines, a heavier line weight for the Inland Rail, Passing lanes for the Inland Rail.

A tour of the Parkes Rail Hub to leave at 1pm by bus and town.

**Pascale Stendell:** Recommended To have a link from our web site to the member Councils.

**John Faulks:** Congratulated Judith Hannan on her report in the papers and over TV news. John will be meeting with Paul Green MP and others to attend the rail symposium.

Ian Armstrong has stepped down from the Bell Line Expressway Group and is now run by Centroc.

**Next Meeting:** The Meeting will be the AGM is scheduled to be held at ???????? On the  
4<sup>th</sup> November 2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12 Noon

**CHAIRMAN** .....

**MINUTES OF THE NSW ASSOCIATION OF MINING RELATED COUNCILS  
ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT RYDGES SYDNEY CENTRAL, 28 ALBION ST,  
SURRY HILLS, IN THE RILEY ROOM ON 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2017**

**Present**

Cr Peter Shinton	Warrumbungle Shire Council (Chair)
Cr Lilliane Brady OAM	Cobar Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
Cr Owen Hasler	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr Melanie Dagg	Cessnock City Council
Cr Dan Thompson	Singleton Shire Council
Mr Jason Linnane	Singleton Shire Council
Cr Alan Ward	Parkes Shire Council
Mr Peter Vlatko	Cobar Shire Council
Cr Jim Nolan	Broken Hill City Council
Cr Noel Lowry	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Robert Khan	Wollondilly Shire Council
Mr David Henry	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
M/S Heather Nicholls	Cabonne Shire Council
Mr Robert Hunt	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Mark Hall	Lachlan Shire Council
Mr Brad Cam	Mid Western Regional Council
Cr Des Kennedy	Mid Western Regional Council
Mr Ron Zwicker	Wollongong City Council
Mr Allan Ewin	Blayney Shire Council
Mr Andrew Johns	Gunnedah Shire Council (at 12.10pm)

**Minute Taker**

Mr Greg Lamont	Executive Officer, Yes Pty Ltd.
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**Guests**

The Hon Anthony Roberts	Minister for Planning & Housing
Mr James Marshall	Centennial Coal
M/S Sarah Jardine	Department Primary Industries
Mr Warwick Giblin	Oz Environmental

**Apologies**

Cr Chris Connor	Wollongong City Council (Deputy Chair)
Steve Loane	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr John Davis	Orange City Council
Cr Gordon Bradbery OAM	Wollongong City Council
Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Newcastle City Council
Cr Gae Swain	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr Sharon Wilcox	Cabonne Shire Council
Cr Jay Suvaal	Cessnock City Council
Cr Melisa Hederiks	Wentworth Shire Council
Mr Peter Kozlowski	Wentworth Shire Council
Cr Scott Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council
M/S Rebecca Ryan	Blayney Shire Council
Cr Michael Banasik	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Hollee Jenkins	Singleton Shire Council



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**1. Welcome**

The Chair, Councillor Peter Shinton welcomed members to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 9.30am.

**2. Apologies**

**OM 35/2017** Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Khan) that the apologies of delegates listed be received and noted.

**3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**

- (a) Mr Ron Zwicker declared his interest as a shareholder in AGL Gas Investments;
- (b) Cr Allan Ewin declared his interest as he has family that works at Newcrest Cadia Mines;
- (c) Cr Melanie Dagg declared her interest as her husband works at Rix's Creek Mine, Hunter Valley.

**4. Minutes of the Previous Ordinary Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**OM 36/2017** Resolved (Cr Hasler/Cr Thompson) that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017 be received and noted.

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting - 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
Nil.

**6. Adoption of the Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**OM 37/2017** Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Hasler) that the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017 to be dealt with after the Executive Officer provides details on the background to each item outlined in the Executive Committee minutes.

**Adjournment of Meeting – Suspension of Standing Orders**

**OM 38/2017** Resolved (Cr Dagg/Cr Thompson) that the meeting be adjourned at 10.10am, to receive the address from the Hon Anthony Roberts and presentations from Sarah Jardine, James Marshall and Warwick Giblin and for morning tea.

***Address by Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing & Special Minister of the State.***

The Minister made the following comments and held a Question and Answer session in lieu of going over his prepared speech, which was invaluable for delegates to get to the root of issues first hand from the Minister:

- He is the Minister in charge of a cluster of portfolios including Mining, Energy and Resources as well as Planning & Housing. As such he indicated if the Association or delegates are having difficulty in having the Ministers or senior staff to attend a future meeting of the Association, or on any issue which is not being resolved, to contact his office and it will be done.
- The Ministers' parliamentary liaison officer, Callum Fountain handed out his card to delegates for future contact. He said "give me an excuse to assist your Association and its members"
- Minister spoke about the need for the planning reviews and legislative changes to provide the platform for growth, jobs and economic development. They are currently

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advertising for membership of IHAPS and indicated that they still have to review the Planning Assessments Commission (PAC) which he will do shortly.

- The issue of non-compliance with development conditions by miners was raised and the Minister indicated he is recruiting more staff with investigating backgrounds to improve the enforcement of consent conditions and the success rate of prosecutions to ensure this improves.
- Delegates raised the issue of the recent Census results are now published and appear to be inaccurate in certain areas of the State in view of the difficulties experienced in conducting the Census. The Minister acknowledged this as a difficult issue to solve as planning, housing etc all rely on the accuracy of Census data and requested if any council's had any ideas on how to address the situation to contact his office.
- Delegates were urged by the Minister to be strong leaders of their communities and work with the state government in implementing the strategies outlined in their regions.
- The Minister's speech included a segment on VPA's where he acknowledged the good work the Association has been doing in this area, he is quoted as follows:

*" I understand the Minerals Council and your Association have taken the initiative to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to fill the gap (in the Department's Guidelines on Voluntary Planning Agreements, acknowledging this has not gone far enough) and I applaud both parties for taking that step.*

*Although the Government recognises this is a private matter between councils and the mining industry, I would urge both parties to continue discussions. I know the outstanding issues are complex and difficult, but it is important you find common ground.*

*Mining projects have long inhabited regional areas where councils and communities reside. A balance has been found before and it will be again. I am impressed with the significant progress already made and I applaud such collaboration.*

*Regional planning requires Input from all areas and the government welcomes a variety of voices as we forge ahead to produce the best systems for the people of regional NSW."*

***Presentations***

The content of the presentations were as follows:

- Sarah Jardine (Department of Primary Industries, Land and Water Commission section on the Mining Status Statistical Report) – Have developed detailed short reports comparing data on predicted impacts/actual impacts, mining activity, compliance results, etc for councils & the community to access,/monitor, via the DPI website.
- James Marshall (Centennial Coal on the Socio – Economic impacts of the shutdown at Springvale Coal in 2015) – Outlined the results of the survey conducted which focussed the effects on employees, their families and local level impacts of the mines inactivity on the local economy when the mine was closed for eight weeks due to the delays with the PAC making a determination on an extension. Full details are in the Springvale Survey Research Project Report dated June 2017, which will be distributed to delegates and highlight some serious impacts for councils affected by similar shut downs on their communities.
- Warwick Giblin (Oz Environmental on the VPA Social Impact Contribution Options for VPA Quantum calculations) – Following discussions with the NSW Minerals Council on equitable options for a contribution to councils for the Social and Economic impacts of mining for the VPA Guideline document, the Association requested

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Warwick to prepare a paper on them for the Association to formulate a position on coal production such as based on a cents per tonne of production, percentage of CAPEX, worker domicile model, an amount based on royalties paid and a model for metals.

(Note: It was agreed that copies of the prepared speech by the Minister and presentation slides and documentation by the speakers be distributed to delegates as detailed background information).

**Resumption of Meeting**

**OM 39/2017** Resolved (Cr Brady/ Cr Dagg) that the meeting resume at 12.40pm.

**OM 40/2017** Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Hasler) that the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017 be received and noted.

**7. Executive Officer's Report**

The Executive Officer's report was dealt with prior to adopting the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

**8. Business Arising from Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

(a) Draft Strategic Plan: The Executive Officer advised that copies of the Draft Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020 has been distributed to delegates electronically for consideration and that any comments by delegates should be referred to the Chair of the working party, Cr Chris Connor, by 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017. Thereafter the plan to be submitted to the Special Meeting set down for 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017, for adoption.

(b) Voluntary Planning Agreement: Following the presentation by Warwick Giblin on the VPA Social and Economic Impact Contribution Quantum models for inclusion in the Guidelines being developed by the Association and the NSW Minerals Council, the following resolutions were passed:

**OM 41/2017** Resolved (Cr Hasler/Cr Brady) that the Association adopt option 3 - the actual cents per tonne (not % of production) as the preferred option in relation to coal production developments with option 4 – 1% of CAPEX as the default model. (Carried unanimously.)

**OM 42/2017** Resolved (Cr Thompson/Cr Dagg) that the Association reject outright the worker domicile model outlined in Option 5 (OF Warwick Giblin's report) as an option and delegates be requested to have their Councils write to the Minister for Planning indicating same. (Carried unanimously.)

**OM 43/2017** Resolved (Cr Hasler/Cr Brady) that the Association adopt for higher value commodities (metals) as the preferred model, a calculation to apply an "X" cents per tonne figure for the ore concentrate (or say 1% of CAPEX), given the different circumstances for higher value commodities as opposed to coal, as the means for compensating council's for the local impacts of metalliferous mining.

**OM 44/2017** Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Hasler) that Warwick Giblin (Oz Environmental) be congratulated for his work on the Voluntary Planning Agreement Quantum Options paper on behalf of the Association. Delegates responded by acclamation.

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(Note: It was agreed that the Executive Officer write to member councils outlining the Associations position on VPA Non Infrastructure Contributions, enclosing Warwick's paper and requesting that member council's individually write to the Minister for Planning, rejecting outright the worker domicile model as a VPA Non Infrastructure Quantum Contribution Calculation option. The Executive Officer should also provide a template to assist Council's in this matter)

**9. Delegates Report – Resources Advisory Forum (RAF).**

A copy of Cr Hasler's report was distributed to all delegates electronically prior to the meeting. Cr Hasler indicated that the next meeting of the RAF was to be on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in Sydney. Cr Hasler also encouraged delegates to attend the DPE workshop organised for Dubbo on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017 as part of the "Improving Environmental Impact Assessments in NSW"

**10. General Business**

- (a) Membership – In the discussion on approaching the Upper Lachlan Shire Council to host a regional meeting of the Association in 2018 to show case solar farms and how Council manages them from the beginning and the issues, it was suggested that the Executive Officer further contact Balranald Shire Council and also to approach Lake Macquarie City Council and Port Stephens Shire Council in order to request their consideration of joining the Association.
- (b) Wind Farm VPA Contributions - Midwestern Council advised that the contribution is set by the Department of Planning at \$1250 per megawatt

**11. Next Meeting** – November 16<sup>th</sup> for the Executive Committee Meeting, commencing at 9.00am and 17<sup>th</sup> November for the Special Meeting at 9.00am, followed by the Annual General Meeting and then the Ordinary Meeting commencing at Singleton Shire Council Chambers, Singleton.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.20pm.**

**The minutes (pages 1-4) were confirmed at a meeting of the Ordinary Committee held on the 17th November 2017 and are a concise and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary meeting held on 11th August 2017.**

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**Cr Peter Shinton  
Chairperson**

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## **DELEGATES REPORT August 2017 – UPPER MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL**

The most recent meeting of the Upper Macquarie County Council was held on Friday 4 August 2017 at the Council offices in Kelso. A number of matters were reported on and considered at the meeting. Included amongst these were:

### **1. Tenders Aerial Spraying Program – ‘Spring’ 2017**

The Upper Macquarie Country Council has been carrying out aerial spraying programs for at least the last 15 years. Following the successful Autumn spraying program a Spring 2017 program is to be conducted. In the Autumn program almost 2,000 hectares were sprayed, targeting serrated tussock and blackberry. The Spring program focusses mainly on serrated tussock.

Aerial spraying tenders were called on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and closed Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The tender provided for the whole program of the works and includes:

- Provision of plant, labour and materials (excluding herbicide, anti-drift agent and water)
- The contractor carry out the works under the Contract, between the hours of 6.00 am and 6.00 pm, Monday to Sunday, and excluding public holidays.

Based on 2,250HA of land being sprayed a tender of \$168,000 GST inclusive was accepted from Commercial Helicopters. Commercial Helicopters has been performing the aerial spraying with Upper Macquarie Country Council for over 15 years and Council has been satisfied with its services.

Subject to weather the program is expected to commence in September 2017.

### **2. Inspections at Wattle Flat**

Wattle Flat has been an area that has long had problems with weeds, due to location and land type with large sections of poor agricultural land, resulting in lower investment placed on controlling weeds infestations. Land ownership within Wattle Flat has been a factor with a high number of life style properties as well as a high number of absentee land owners.

On 12 May 2017, Upper Macquarie County Council sent Notice of Intent to inspect letters to residents of Wattle Flat with inspections commencing later that month. A total of 176 property inspections took place over the period.

There were a large number of properties that only had light infestations and on most of these properties there was evidence of weed control work being carried out. Council is planning to re-inspect these properties again in 12 months.

There are 45 properties that have larger or heavy infestations that are receiving property inspection reports requiring weed control work to be carried out within a suitable time frame.

There are 6 main properties of concern that have heavy or large infestations. 5 out of the 6 properties of concern will be receiving letters to contact Council seeking advice on the level of infestations on their property and their management plan for the control of these infestations. The 6<sup>th</sup> property has only just recently changed ownership.

### **3. Alternative Governance Models for UMCC**

The Council considered a report in relation to alternative governance models for the UMCC and resolved to hold a workshop with councillors to consider the matter in further depth. The workshop is to be held as soon as possible after the appointment of delegates to the County Council following the September elections.

### **4. Inspections (3 June to 21 July 2017)**

During the period 324 inspections of properties and roads took place. These included:

LGA	No. of Inspections
Bathurst	172
Blayney	11
Lithgow	63
Oberon	78

**In addition to the Council meeting a number of other noteworthy matters arose since the previous meeting;**

### **5. Biosecurity Act 2015**

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* is now in effect. The new Act replaces ten existing Acts, including the Noxious Weeds Act 1993, and makes substantial changes to four other Acts. The Act is considered to be an enabling piece of legislation that includes numerous tools and powers that can be used regardless of what the biosecurity risk is, whether it is known or newly emerging, or where the risk is occurring. The Act supports a national approach to biosecurity and provides consistency with legislation in other jurisdictions, enabling more effective management, enforcement and compliance activities.

### **6. Central Tablelands Regional Weed Management Plan**

The Central Tablelands Local Land Services Board, has developed and adopted the Management Plan. The Plan gives direction for how weeds within the region are to be managed and outlines how government, industry and the community will share responsibility and work together to identify, minimise, respond to, and manage weeds. It relates to all lands and waters in the Central Tablelands Local Land Services region of NSW. Importantly however the Plan will be providing direction for Local Control Authorities for the application of the new Biosecurity Act.

The Plan focuses on managing weeds that impact:

- animal and plant industries, including agriculture, horticulture, forestry, aquaculture and recreational and commercial fishing in freshwater systems

- ecological communities and biodiversity, including natural urban and peri-urban environments
- human health, livelihood, lifestyle, cultural values, recreation and landscape amenity
- infrastructure and service industries, including energy, transport and water supplies.

The plan defines what “shared responsibility” means for the region’s communities and stakeholders, and how they might work together to identify, minimise, respond to and manage high risk weeds at a landscape scale, both now and into the future.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* is tenure neutral, as it applies equally to all land in the region, whether public or private.

A regional weed prioritisation process has been identified with management categories of: Prevention; Eradication; Containment; and Asset Protection.

### **7. NSW Government Innovation Fund**

Council has been successful in its application under the NSW Government’s Innovation Fund Round Two for Remotely Piloted Aircraft (Drones) for Weed Inspections and Biosecurity Threats with an estimated project cost of \$51,700 a Council contribution of \$17,200 and grant of \$34,500.

### **8. Community Events**

Oberon Garden Club – a Council Weeds Officer gave a presentation at the Oberon Garden Club. The presentation was well received with 28 people in attendance and 8 weed samples were brought in for identification and discussion on how to control as well as many questions raised in relation to their own weed management experiences. Of those that attended most lived on rural acreage with several living in town.

Upcoming community events include; Blayney Farmers’ Market, 20 August; Burruga Show, 27 August; Tarana Farmers’ Market in November; and Oberon Farmers’ Market.

It has been very pleasing the number of events that Council has been getting invited to.

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council note the Delegates Report on the Upper Macquarie County Council.**