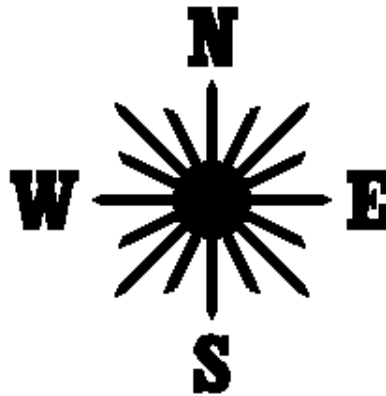


Mission Statement

To promote the Central Darling Shire area by encouraging development through effective leadership, community involvement and facilitation of services

CENTRAL DARLING



SHIRE COUNCIL

Final Minutes

For the Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 17th November 2009

at

White Cliffs

Council dedicated to serving its Communities.

Any public discussion of Council or Committee reports and recommendations is on the basis that such reports or recommendations do not have effect until adopted by a full meeting of Council.

The above-mentioned Meeting of Council was held in the Community Hall, White Cliffs on Tuesday 17th November 2009 commencing at 9:31am.

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SECTION 1. THE GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE

PRESENT:

Councillors:
Ray Longfellow
Graham Wellings
Peter Sullivan
Paul Brown
Moya Reid
Clive Linnett
Eamon Sammon
Ron Page

ALSO PRESENT:

Tim Hazell	General Manager	
Reece Wilson	Manager Technical and Engineering	Services
Leeanne Ryan	Manager of Environmental Services	
Kym Fuller	Manager of Community and	Economic
	Development	
Mel Brown	Executive Manager	

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies

SECTION 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted.

1-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Wellings that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

2.1 Business Arising out of Minutes

The General Manager noted a number of corrections to the October 2009 minutes.

Councillor Brown noted that three additional questions regarding the Knox & Downs report had been omitted, he requested that the following be included:

1. Had the General Manager seen a first draft of the Business Plan for the site?
2. Does the General Manager know what the Business Plan includes?
3. When will the Business Plan be ready?

He noted that the General Manager had not seen the plan nor knew when it would be given to Council.

2.2 Notices of Motion/Rescission

SECTION 3. MAYORAL MINUTE OR REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Report be received and noted.

2-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded that the Mayoral Report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

On the 21st October the Mayor conducted the official opening of the Rangers Conference in Wilcannia.

On the 24th October the Mayor conducted the official welcome to the Darling River (Western) of the CWA Annual Conference in Ivanhoe.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended the Tidy Towns Award Presentations in Tamworth on the 31st October. White Cliffs received a highly commended award for their efforts.

The Mayor attended the Executive Shire Association meeting in Sydney on the 4th November. Arrangements for the 2010 Shires Conference were discussed and the conference theme "Building a Bright Future" was confirmed.

Whilst in Sydney, the Mayor attended the Natural and Built Environment Committee and Social Policy Committee meetings as part of the Shires Executive on the 5th November.

The Mayor addressed the Council with the following message regarding Council's media relations policy.

'Councillors speaking to the media has been recently highlighted and it has raised concerns in relation to Council Policy regarding this matter.

Individual Councillors are entitled to put forward their views however it must not be perceived to be an attempt to bring Council into disrepute or to in any way undermine community confidence in the Council. Formal resolutions of Council are binding and are the decision of Council, whether individual Councillors are in support or not of the outcome. The majority view of the Council is the voice of the Council and any decision needs to be accepted by all Councillors. Council has a very clear Media Relations Policy that states 'Only the Mayor or the General Manager may represent, or speak on behalf of Council.'

I would advise caution to Councillors on speaking in public on issues that require, or may require, a development application. The Environmental and Assessment Act specifies that Councillors must consider the application as it is put forward and should not have a pre-determined view. If we do not keep an open mind, it may well see the issue end up in the Land and Environment Court with the associated legal costs involved.

I urge all Councillors to act in the appropriate manner and to adhere to Council Policy and the formal resolutions of Council.'

The Mayor noted that he was making no reference to any particular Councillor regarding his statements and did not refer specifically to Clr Brown.

SECTION 4. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the General Managers report be received and dealt with

3-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the General Managers report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

4.1 Administration

4.1.1 Property Valuations

Council has received correspondence from the New South Wales Valuer General regarding moving to a three-year valuation cycle for rating purposes. Based on the advice of the Valuer General such a move enhances fairness and consistency in land valuations. It also removes excessive fluctuations in land values over longer periods.

This service attracts no additional cost for the more frequent land values and has been accepted as an update to current procedures.

4.1.2 Councillor Vacancy – Ward “C”

Advice has been received from the NSW Electoral Commission that the 13th February 2010 has been set aside for a bi-election in Ward “C” if required. While this time frame is outside the three months required by legislation the Electoral Commission have indicated that an extension period of 28 days was available. The electoral roll is set to close on Monday the 4th January 2010 with nominations closing at noon on Wednesday the 13th January 2010.

4.1.3 National Rural Women’s Coalition

The National Rural Women’s Coalition (NRWC) is seeking Councils support in a project on behalf of rural regional and remote communities in Australia. The project is to identify projects and activities that have supported some communities to become thriving and successful. Details can be e-mailed to karen@mulgasolutions.com.au or s.stoddart@nrwc.com.au.

4.1.4 Menindee Central School

Correspondence has been received from the principal of the Menindee Central School concerning entering into a memorandum of understanding with the Council. It has been suggested that a workshop be held with representatives of the School and Council to examine ways that the two organisations can work together. A date before mid December has been suggested.

4.1.5 Staff Issues

The Manager Technical and Engineering Services will shortly be taking extended leave due to personal family reasons. Alternative arrangements are being put in place for this period.

4.1.6 Sunset Strip Postcode

Further advice from Australia Post indicates that the amount of mail delivered to Sunset Strip does not warrant a separate postcode, in much the same way that Wilcannia and White Cliffs share a postcode. Sunset Strip is currently not registered on the Australia Post website, a situation that is to be corrected. Given the obvious difficulty of this situation, it is recommended that the Committee consider a separate approach to the relevant authorities.

Councillor Reid noted that Sunset Strip has officially been given post code 2879.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Administration Report be received and noted.

4-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Reid that the Administration Report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 NSW Rural Fire Service

The Team Manager Far West of the NSW Rural Fire Service , Mr Chris Favelle, has advised that it is appropriate to submit funding estimates for the 2010/2011 financial year. These estimates have been compiled by the Far West team through Mr Chris Favelle the Team Manager Far West. The estimate of total expenditure for 2010/2011 is approximately \$345,000 which is less than the budget sum for 2009/2010 of \$356,000. It is also important to note that from the 2009/2010 financial year Councils contribution reduces from the previous 13.3% to 11.7% of the total bid.

It is appropriate that Council formally resolve to continue to support the fire service in its current form and to support the application for further funding.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the continuation of the present rural fire service and submit the projected budget for further consideration.

5-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council endorse the continuation of the present rural fire service and submit the projected budget for further consideration.

MOTION CARRIED

4.3 Public Access

The question of public access and addresses to Council has been recently raised. The Meetings Practice Note issued by the Department of Local Government states that there is no automatic right under the Act or the Regulation for the public to participate in a Council meeting. The Practice Note goes on to state that such public participation is considered good practice and that Councils should consider giving basic guidance to potential speakers on meeting processes and practices.

Presently public access is listed on the Agenda at section 14 which is towards the end of each Council meeting. Given that the public address could be in connection with an item listed on the Agenda it may be appropriate to have the access moved to the start of the meeting and be listed following the Mayoral Minute or Report.

It may also be appropriate to have each member of the public register with the Executive Manager prior to the meeting, listing details on their address. Each speaker should be limited to only one address to the Council with a five minute time limit for that address. All questions posed will be taken on notice and a formal response made to each member of the public at a later date.

A general discussion was held regarding the limitation of the public access to the Council and the suggestion that community members should be made to feel welcome to attend Council meetings and address the Council.

Councillor Brown moved and Councillor Reid seconded an amendment that a policy be created regarding Public Access to be bought back to the next meeting of Council.

The amendment was carried and became the motion.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Public Access report be received and noted.

6-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Reid that a policy be created regarding Public Access to be bought back to the next meeting of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

4.4 Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Advice has been received from the Department of Local Government seeking nominations for the implementation of the integrated planning and reporting framework. The timeframes for implementation are as follows:

- Group One – Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program adopted by the 30th June 2010.
- Group Two – Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program adopted by the 30th June 2011.
- Group Three – Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program adopted by the 30th June 2012.

It is noted that the choice of Group must be determined by Council resolution. While work has commenced on the Central Darling Shire Council it is considered prudent to perhaps delay the formal consideration of the new planning and reporting structure to 2012.

Councillor Brown suggested that the implementation date should be 30th June 2011 as 2012 is an election year and the community should be aware of the direction of the Shire prior to this. Also he noted that there may be a turn over in staff within this time frame.

Councillor Brown moved and Councillor Reid seconded an amendment that Council nominate to participate in Group 2 with an implementation date of 30th June 2011.

The amendment was lost on the casting vote of the Mayor.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council nominate to participate in Group Three with an implementation date of the 30th June 2012.

7-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that Council nominate to participate in Group Three with an implementation date of the 30th June 2012.

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCILLOR BROWN RECORDS AGAINST

COUNCILLOR REID RECORDS AGAINST

4.5 Water for the Future and Murray-Darling Basin Plan

The Australian Government is holding a series of community information sessions throughout the Murray-Darling Basin on its Future Plan and the development of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. These sessions will be led by senior staff from the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. Dates include:

- Dubbo, 1st December 2009
- Bourke, 2nd December 2009
- Moree, 8th December 2009
- Goondiwindi, 9th December 2009
- St George, 10th December 2009

It was agreed that Councillor Brown would attend the meeting in Bourke and Councillor Linnett would attend if available.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Water for the Future and Murray-Darling Basin Plan be received and noted.

8-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Brown that the Water for the Future and Murray-Darling Basin Plan be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

4.6 2009-2010 Management Plan – September Review

The report on the September review of the 2009/2010 Management Plan is contained in an attachment to the Agenda.

A number of questions were posed by Clr Brown and Clr Reid concerning health related Transport, Multi Service Outlet and the Menindee Caravan Park. The GM took them on Notice.

RECOMMENDATION:

That

1. the first quarter review of the 2009/2010 Management Plan as presented be adopted.

2. the budget review for the September 2009 quarter be adopted and the estimates be varied by the amounts as stated within the report.

9-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that

1. the first quarter review of the 2009/2010 Management Plan as presented be adopted.

2. the budget review for the September 2009 quarter be adopted and the estimates be varied by the amounts as stated within the report.

MOTION CARRIED

4.7 2008-2009 Annual Financial Reports

The Local Government Act, 1993 (The Act) requires that a Council must prepare an Annual Financial Report each financial year and that this report must be prepared in accordance with:

1. The Local Government Act 1993 and Regulations
2. The Australian Accounting Standards
3. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The Council is also required by Legislation to complete and sign a statement attesting to this fact. This statement is now formally presented for formal resolution.

The Annual Financial Reports have only just been completed and a copy will be made available at the Council meeting. Given the obvious tight time frame it is proposed to provide a full analysis to the December 2009 meeting of Council. The external auditor has indicated a willingness to attend this meeting of Council to discuss the Reports.

In accordance with sections 418, 419 and 420 of the Local Government Act, 1993, Council is required to give public notice of the Council meeting at which the Annual Financial Reports are to be tabled. It is proposed to present the Reports to the Council meeting to be held on the 15th December 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council formally resolve to sign the Statement by Council and Management and present the 2008-2009 Annual Financial Reports for external audit.

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday the 15th December 2009 be the meeting to publicly present the Auditors report on the 2008/2009 Annual Financial Reports and public submissions regarding the Annual Financial Reports be invited and Council invite the external auditor to this meeting to present his report.

10-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council formally resolve to sign the Statement by Council and Management and present the 2008-2009 Annual Financial Reports for external audit.

That the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday the 15th December 2009 be the meeting to publicly present the Auditors report on the 2008/2009 Annual Financial Reports and public submissions regarding the Annual Financial Reports be invited and Council invite the external auditor to this meeting to present his report.

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCILLOR BROWN RECORDS AGAINST

COUNCILLOR REID RECORDS AGAINST

Councillor Page declared an interest in the matter as he has family connections with the Manager of the Correctional Facility and left the Hall at 10:20am

4.8 Ivanhoe Correctional Facility

Correspondence has been received from Mr Greg Sneddon, General Manager of the Broken Hill Correctional Complex and Ivanhoe Correctional Centre requesting that the Central Darling Shire Council enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commissioner of Corrective Services.

A copy of the MOU is attached for Council's reference.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Commissioner of Corrective Services for the Ivanhoe Correctional Facility.

11-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Commissioner of Corrective Services for the Ivanhoe Correctional Facility.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Page returned to the Hall at 10:22am

4.9 Abandonments

Further to Council resolution 11-10-09 concerning the abandonment of rates and charges, the figure listed should have been \$162,891.74 of which \$48,169.95 was interest that was written off.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the abandonments of rates and charges for the 2008-2009 financial year.

12-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council adopt the abandonments of rates and charges for the 2008-2009 financial year.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:24am, resuming at 10:52am

SECTION 5. MANAGER TECHNICAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Manager Technical and Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.

13-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Reid that the Manager Technical and Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.

MOTION CARRIED

5.1 Activity Report 10th October 2009 to 6th November 2009

5.1.1 Administration

Staff Training

No Engineering staff training carried out this month

Workshops, Meetings and Conferences

Barwon Darling Town Water Supplies Drought Teleconference (Wednesday 28/10/09)

Lachlan River Town Water Supplies Drought Teleconference (Friday 30/10/09)

Both Teleconferences covered similar topics for discussion and responses were the same for CDSC.

Blue Green Algae

- 1) Algal Monitoring Update by Chris Knights (Departmental Algal specialist)
- 2) Nothing to report at this stage as informed by recent testing
- 3) However, contingency plans should be implemented, ie, carbon stockpile, any plant/equipment issues addressed
- 4) Approaching high risk phase, relatively higher temperatures, low flows (or even cease)

River Report

- 1) Matt Parmeter advised on the current status of both River Systems
- 2) Salinity is reasonable however temperatures are rising
- 3) Reece informed of CDSC's situation, Wilcannia and Ivanhoe, restrictions are in place, treatment capacity OK, adequate carbon in stock
- 4) Departmental approval required in Wilcannia to transfer water from upper weir pool to lower weir pool, Richard Wheatley to be contacted in this regard
- 5) White Cliffs, Wakefield storage has 5-6 months supply

Water Carting

- 1) No requests to date, however are expected shortly
- 2) Minister has declared no town will be without water
- 3) Standpipes should be checked and funds available for more standpipes,

Drought Management Plans to be updated and submitted to the Department.

Depot Office

Location	Task	Comments
<u>Manager of Technical and Engineering Services</u>		
Office/Shire	Supervision, Enquiries, Inspections, Invoices	Ongoing
Works Programme	2009/2010 Programme	25%
Water/Sewer Asset	Capture and implement	In Progress
Regional Roads REPAIR Program	Application for funding 2009/2010	Application Submitted, awaiting response.
Ivanhoe Bores	4 New Production Bores drilled and encased Agreement with land holder Easement survey and plan update Licence all new bores Pump and power proposal	Complete In Progress In Progress In Progress With Contractor
Wilcannia 2 nd Bore	Survey for the location of the new bores and flood height. Detailed Plans sent to Construction Contractor for final design. DWE invoiced for 50% of monies spent to date Pump and power proposal	Completed With Contractor Received Received
Plant Replacement	3 Landcruisers, DES, MES, MCED and GM's car.	In Progress
Bonley Bridge	Sub structure Deck Approaches Guard Rail installation	Complete Complete 9 th November - Sealing Outstanding
Lake Woytchugga	Culvert replacement Fencing Guard rail installation	Complete Complete Outstanding
<u>Project Engineer</u>		
Wilcannia Weir	Immediate works to minimise leakage New Weir proposal	Application completed In progress
Wilcannia Water and	Remote Communities Assistance	In progress

Sewer	Aboriginal Communities	In progress
Drought Management Plan	Review and Update	In Progress
<u>Assets Roads Manager</u>		
State Roads RMCC	Works Proposals submitted this Month	4
	Works Orders received (total for the year)	4
RTA	Works Proposals and Works Orders. Routine Maintenance Register. Highway routine inspections.	Start RMCC October On Going On Going
<u>Overseer</u>		
Office/Shire	Staff supervision, Enquiries, Inspections.	Ongoing
Shire Roads	Inspections	Ongong
RTA	Ivanhoe Pedestrian crossing	95% complete

5.1.2 Community Amenity

Public Conveniences

General maintenance all towns

5.1.3 Water Supplies

Wilcannia

Wilcannia Filtered and Raw Water

Filtered water for the town is from Bore No. 1

Raw water for the town is from the weir pool.

There have been delays in returning the potable town water supply to River Water. Mechanical pump failures and the regulating flow meter have been removed and are currently being repaired and replaced. Estimated date that Wilcannia will revert to river water for filtered supply is Friday 13th November.

Water levels at the Weir

6th October 2009, No flow over the top of the Wilcannia concrete weir. Water level 300mm below top of weir.

Pumps

Wilcannia Water Treatment Plant.

Satisfactory operation at the Water Treatment Plan.

White Cliffs

Satisfactory Operation

Water Levels, 9th October 2009.

Tank 1 = 4.0m

Tank 2 = 3.5m

Tank 3 = 6.4m (Wakefield) Supply for the Town

Two new 45,000 litre tanks are in place at Dam 1. Solar pump array system has been installed. Pump and pipe work to be completed

Ivanhoe

Satisfactory Operation, water supplied from the bore field's storage; Flow rate is steady at 4.5 l/sec

Water Levels, 9th October 2009.

Town storage 48 megalitres.

Morrison's lake storage 0 megalitres.

5.1.4 Sewerage

Satisfactory operations, general maintenance, Wilcannia.

Routine Maintenance and inspections on the pump stations and pump wells.

5.1.5 Central Darling Shire Assets

Wilcannia Filtered and Raw Water services.

Inspected and logged into the Asset data system.

5.1.6 Transport & Communication General

State Roads - RTA Routine Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC)

Road	Activity	Comments
SH 8	Barrier Highway = 167.32 km Routine maintenance (RMCC)	10% ongoing
SH21	Cobb Highway = 219.38 km Routine maintenance (RMCC) Maintenance Grade Gravel resheet	5% ongoing Complete
	Columbus Street – pedestrian Island	95% Complete

Regional Roads

Road	Activity	Comments
MR66 = 6.38 km Menindee To Broken Hill	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance	Ongoing
MR67 = 34.75 km Ivanhoe to Balranald	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance	Ongoing
MR 68A = 127.66 km Wilcannia To Tilpa	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance	Ongoing
MR 68B = 154.42 km Wilcannia To Menindee	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance, Maintenance Grading.	Ongoing Ongoing
MR68C = 69.80 km Menindee to Pooncarie	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance	Ongoing
MR 428 = 34.91 km White Cliffs - Kayrunnera	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance	Ongoing
MR80 = 3.99 km Mossgiel to Hillston	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance	Ongoing
MR 416 = 65.72 km Ivanhoe to Cobar Shire	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance Maintenance Grading.	Ongoing Ongoing
MR 433 = 199.87 km Ivanhoe to Menindee	Routine Inspection/ Maintenance Maintenance Grading.	Ongoing Ongoing

Road	Activity	Comments
MR435 = 93.14 km Wilcannia to White Cliffs	Routine Maintenance/ patching	On Going

Local Roads

Roads	Activity	Comments
ALL = 1602.30 km	Maintenance Inspections	Ongoing Ongoing

5.1.7 Aerodromes

Menindee, Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Ivanhoe, Tilpa and Emmdale

Routine Inspections and maintenance.

Investigations into the suitability of Kangaroo proofing existing fence lines around the airstrips

Shade shelter delivered to Menindee Depot, installation to be done as soon as practicable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted

14-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

5.2 Desalination Trial

Primary Water Ltd have recently visited the Shire to carry out desalination trials in Wilcannia and Ivanhoe. The trials were done with no cost to Council. The results of this new technology may prove invaluable in the future if drought conditions persist and towns are going to be solely reliant on ground water and the associated rising salt levels.

The small prototype water desalination unit that was used was approximately the dimensions of a large orange crate and generates 5,000 litres of water per day. Primary Water has requested units to be designed that can provide 10,000 l/ day and 20,000 l/day whilst a unit of 100,000 litres is in test in Leeuwarden in North Holland. Based on the results of the last few weeks development work by Primary Water and Voltea at their facilities in Boston, MA and Leiden, a unit that runs solely on solar power has been built. It will produce similar quantities of water as the prototype unit but without the need for mains power.

For the Central Darling Shires trials, each test was run on site and lasted for 1 to 2 days. The water was taken directly from the source and run through the units. They can take directly from the bores as the trial unit has organic and particle filters though they needed a small header tank to regulate supply. The output went into separate waste and potable water containers. They used different and separate gauges for each container to confirm the results. Samples were taken to the labs for testing.

The unit is rectoid – about 85cm by 85cm, but not as deep as it is long or broad. The prototype had been mounted on wheels and was operated by a laptop, which fits neatly into the door panel. The solar-powered version will not use a laptop but a PCD control panel. The prototype unit setup for our work in Australia will use about as much power as a laptop – i.e. 1.5 volts - converted from the mains supply.

Laboratory testing has involved running the machine non stop for 48 hours increasing the level of salts in solution DDST from tap water through to sea water. Though the machine was calibrated for work on brackish water based on average samples in Australia of 2200 ppm. They can calibrate the machine with an adjustment of the PC to deliver any type of water from distilled to drinking water – normally below 500 ppm. The waste proved to be between 15% - 20%. Another conductivity meter was added on the unit so they could demonstrate the input and the output salt levels.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Desalination Trial report be received and noted.

15-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Desalination Trial report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.3 Rail Crossings Upgrades

ARTC have agreed to the proposal, scope of works and costs to carry out works to upgrade three rail crossing sites to active protection within the Shire.

The **Trida** rail crossing upgrade is programmed to commence Monday 16th November. The scope of works include:

- Widen, realign and reshape the existing road formation
- Supply and transport of road construction materials
- Construct compacted earth pad to sleeper level for the installation of ARTC structure
- Seal the approaches to the crossing as per AS 1742.7
- Install a temporary detour road suitable for heavy vehicles to be used whilst Transfield operatives install the steel checker plate crossing. Remove detour road back to natural surface level once work is completed.
- Provide traffic control whilst detour is in place.
- Install new signs and line markings as per AS 1742.7

The **Darnick** and **Menindee** sites are similar but without the need for a detour to be used. These sites will be programmed to be completed after the Trida work is completed, pending the availability of ARTC supervision whilst working adjacent to the railway line.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rail Crossing Upgrades report be received and noted.

16-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Brown that the Rail Crossing Upgrades report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.4 Maintenance Grading Program October and November 2009

This program has been prepared to enable Council to follow the progress of the grading on the Shire Road network.

The report is attached for Council's reference.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Maintenance Grading Program October and November 2009 be received and noted.

17-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Maintenance Grading Program October and November 2009 be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 6. MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Manager of Environmental Services Report be received and dealt with.

18-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Manager of Environmental Services Report be received and dealt with.

MOTION CARRIED

6.1 Information Items

6.1.1 DrumMuster

On Wednesday 28th October 2009, Council held its first DrumMuster collection for the Shire at Menindee. The collection went well, with over 700 drums collected. It is envisaged that another collection day will be held in the coming months.

6.1.2 Swimming Pools

Interviews have been held for Casual Swimming Pool Attendants in the locations of Menindee, Ivanhoe, White Cliffs and Wilcannia. At this stage employment details are being finalised.

6.1.3 Menindee Community Housing

Recently a couple of community houses owned and managed by Council in Menindee have become vacant. Tenants will be allocated to these houses as per Council's Community Housing Policy. It is expected that new tenants will be selected shortly.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Information Items be received and noted

19-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the Information Items be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Development Applications

To inform Council of Development Applications approved under delegated authority over the past months, the following table is provided.

DA	Applicant	Development Address	Development Type
07/09	John Nation	Wentworth Rd, Menindee	Verandah
08/09	The Long Paddock Committee	Columbus Street, Ivanhoe	Mural and Shelter

09/09	Alice Bates	26-30 Byrnes Street, Wilcannia	Removal of shed
10/09	Lower Murray Darling CMA	Menindee Aboriginal Reserve	Install sign
11/09	Broken Hill Speed Boat Club	Copi Hollow, via Menindee	Boat Shed
12/09	LA Badari & CL Hicks	Menindee Street, Menindee	Shed
13/09	KB Cain	Menindee Lakes Caravan Park	Disabled Toilet
14/09	Richard Wagner	Keraro Rd, White Cliffs	Removal of building
17/09	CDSC	Menindee Pool, Menindee	Shade Sail
19/09	CDSC	Burke & Wills Park, Menindee	Shade Shelter

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the actions Manager Environmental Services

20-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Reid that Council endorse the actions Manager Environmental Services

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 7. MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT
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RECOMMENDATION

That the Manager of Community and Economic Development's report be received and dealt with.

21-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sammon, Seconded Clr Reid that the Manager of Community and Economic Development's report be received and dealt with.

MOTION CARRIED

7.1 Schedule of Investments

Schedule of Investments - October 2009

	DATE	TIME PERIOD	INTEREST RATE	DUE DATE	TOTAL (\$)
Deposits at Call					
Commonwealth			3.20%		\$0.00
Westpac			3.05%		\$50,000.00
Australian Corporate Mortgage Backed Securities (Face Value)					
Castlereagh Trust	90 points over 3mth	BBSW	8.74%	31-Oct-09	\$1,500,000.00
Total Investments as at 31st October 2009					
11 am Call Account					\$50,000.61
Commercial Bills and Notes					\$1,500,000.00
Term Deposits					\$0.00
					\$1,550,000.61

At Call refers to funds held at a financial institution that can be recalled within 24 hours.

The Mortgage Backed Security is a longer term investment with a floating interest rate on the Notes.

The rate is adjusted every 3 months. Council classifies this facility as 'available for sale' which requires measurement at fair value at the end of the year.

Commercial Bills and Term Deposits are short term investments issued by a bank with a promise to pay a specified amount on settlement (being the face value plus interest).

It was noted that the interest of 8.74% is not correct and needs to be amended.

The Collateralised Debt Obligation that Council holds with the Westpac Bank and Castlereagh Trust was valued at \$718,335 at the end of October 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.

22-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

7.2 Rates Report October 2009

That rates collection statement for the month of October is attached for information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rates Collection Report be received and adopted.

23-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Sammon that the Rates Collection Report be received and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

7.3 Burke and Wills 150th Anniversary Expedition

Council has received a prospectus from the organisers of the Burke and Wills 150th Anniversary Expedition organisers. The prospectus is designed to gain support and to raise funds for the expedition.

The Royal Society of Victoria, which organised the 1860 expedition of Burke and Will's has planned a series of events to commemorate the 150th anniversary from 20th August 2010 onwards. Working out of the same historical building – which has been renovated for the occasion – the officers of the RSV are keen to recognise the enormous contribution made by Burke and Wills who were the first to cross the large and forbidding continent from south to north opening up the vast interior for settlement. The RSV has established a commemorative advisory committee of eminent Australians from varied disciplines for this purpose. During the expedition there are numerous events being planned, including but not limited to, an environmental expedition which will travel south to north along the original 1860 route working with indigenous rangers and local conservation authorities to assess environmental impact over the last 150 years and create plans for repairing the damage.

The MCED met with Simon Molesworth QC and Dr. Jonathan King – Director Environmental Expedition to discuss the part the Central Darling Shire could play, as Menindee was the place the original expedition spent a considerable amount of time. The two gentleman then travelled to Menindee and spoke with a number of people to determine the level of community support for a specific event. The event would be staged in the town or at the campsite, they came back confident that an event would be successful including offering the Mayor or a selected community representative an opportunity to spend a week on the expedition learning about and participating in the research that will be undertaken.

The only requirement from council at this stage is to write a letter of support for the expedition, once all of the details has been worked out council will be contacted with the specifics and a number of options will be offered for financial or in-kind consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That council write a letter of support for the Burke and Wills 150th Anniversary Expedition to be staged in August 2010.

24-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Page that council write a letter of support for the Burke and Wills 150th Anniversary Expedition to be staged in August 2010.

MOTION CARRIED

7.4 Tidy Towns Success

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended the Tidy Towns Awards ceremony in Tamworth over the weekend of 31st October and were on hand to receive a highly commended award for the "Overall Town", Tibooburra also received a high commendation with Milparinka receiving the winners award for "Cultural Heritage".

According to the Tidy Towns organiser Mr. Phil Kelly "the highly commended award for White Cliffs is a great achievement considering this is the first time Central Darling Shire towns were entered". He further went on to say that he "encourages the shire to re-enter for next year as every town had the opportunity to be successful and can learn from the experience, whether they think they are ready or not!".

The Mayor extended his congratulations to the town of Tibooburra also receiving a high commendation.

Councillor Page requested that a media release be prepared informing the Shire communities that the Tidy Town awards cover all aspects of communities not just keeping them tidy.

RECOMMENDATION

That council encourage and work with community groups in each town and encourage them to enter the competition in 2010

25-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Page that council encourage and work with community groups in each town and encourage them to enter the competition in 2010

MOTION CARRIED

7.5 Wilcannia and Menindee Health Bus Christmas Timetable

As per the Wilcannia and Menindee Health Related Transport contracts, the operators are allowed 10 working days off over the Christmas New Year period. With this in mind the services will not operate between the following dates;

Wilcannia 29th December 2009 – 12th January 2010

Menindee 29th December 2009 – 12th January 2010

Public notices will be placed in both towns and Broken Hill, on the buses and relevant local newspapers.

It was requested that the advertisement state that the last health bus would be running on the 24th December in both towns.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Wilcannia and Menindee Health Bus Christmas Timetable report be received and noted.

26-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Wilcannia and Menindee Health Bus Christmas Timetable report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

7.6 Round two of the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP)

Council has received correspondence from the office of Hon. Anthony Albanese MP regarding round two of the above program. Round two entitles Central Darling Shire Council to another \$30,000 for community infrastructure. As the allocation of round one of the funding of \$100,000 was split evenly between the four main towns of the shire it is envisaged the same will apply for round two.

To claim the allocation council is required to provide details of our proposed projects via an online application process. Funding will only be released for projects that meet the requirements of the RLCIP round two guidelines. Local governments are encouraged to include projects in their application that address the needs of their local indigenous population. Local Governments are also encouraged to consider environmental sustainability when preparing project proposals, with particular focus on how activities will promote green building technologies, design practices and operations. Examples of community infrastructure deemed suitable are;

- Social and cultural infrastructure, such as town hall, community centres, libraries, parks and public squares;
- Sport and recreation facilities, such as sporting grounds, stadiums, pools, walking tracks and playgrounds;
- Tourism infrastructure, such as walkways and tourist information centres;
- Access facilities, such as bus shelters, jetties and boat ramps; and
- Environmental initiatives, such as water conservation infrastructure and recycling plants.

With that in mind and in line with the information received during the community strategic planning sessions, it is proposed to use equal amounts of \$7500.00 per community. Because of the small amount per town the following projects could be considered;

- Hard packed dirt bike ramps
- Picnic tables and chairs
- Solar powered BBQ's
- Add to the available funds for the CDEP in each town

Once council has determined what the funds will be used for, according to the criteria as set by the federal government an application will be prepared. Applications must be submitted and approved so that funding agreements can be signed with the federal government by no later than 31st December 2009.

It was agreed that funding would be applied for to complete renovation works at the Sunset Strip Hall to the value of \$15,000 and improvements to the Emmdale airstrip to the value of \$15,000.

RECOMMENDATION

That council identify worthy projects in each town to the value of \$7500.00 that can be put forward in an application for Round 2 of the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program to the federal government as soon as possible.

27-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the Emmdale Airstrip and the Sunset Strip Hall be identified as projects to the value of \$15,000.00 that can be put forward in an application for Round 2 of the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program to the federal government.

MOTION CARRIED

7.7 Ivanhoe Geographic Centre of Australia's Population Signage Proposal

At the request of the Mayor council has commissioned some designs for signage to be erected in Ivanhoe depicting the fact that the centre of Australia's population is located nearby. As reported in the August agenda according to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) analysis which places the centre of Australia's population spread at longitude 32.90038° S and latitude 144.3015° E: in other words, 50 kilometres east of the nearest town, Ivanhoe. The ABS data analyses the spatial distribution of Australia's population, and identifies the 'population centre' marking the average latitude and longitude around which the population is distributed. Attached for councils consideration are four concepts, below is an explanation of each;

Concept 1

Here we take a little licence and use the fact that Ivanhoe is actually the "heart" of Australia.

*On entering the town there is a sign which says:
(heart graphic)*

You are entering the heart of Australia

IVANHOE – The population centre of Australia
(Small) Ivanhoe is the Centre of the Australian Population - Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2008.

On leaving the town there is a sign which says:
(heart graphic)

You are leaving the heart of Australia

IVANHOE – The population centre of Australia
(Small) Ivanhoe is the Centre of the Australian Population - Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2008.

While in town there is a strategically placed sign which says:
(heart graphic)

I'm in the heart of Australia

(This heart graphic has a hole in it, to allow people to stick their faces through)

IVANHOE – The population centre of Australia
(Small) Ivanhoe is the Centre of the Australian Population - Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2008.

Near this sign there is another sign, which simply and boldly states:
"Picture your self here!"

Concept 2

This concept for the sign in the centre of town, makes use of a rhyme:
"Hi diddle diddle, I'm in the middle!"

It depicts a cartoon drawing of an "Outback Australian" character - dressed a bit like a Bill Hoskins without the beard. He has his "thumbs up!"

The cartoon has a hole left for viewers to put their heads through.

Under the graphic is the copy:

IVANHOE – The Centre of The Australian Population - Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2008.

Signs on entering and leaving would be:

Welcome, to the middle of Australia's population.

Buy bye, from the middle of Australia's population.

Concept 3

This treatment makes use of a “happy face” drawing
The centre of the town sign would be:

I've been to the centre!

...and then the line:

IVANHOE – THE CENTRE OF AUSTRALIANS

(Small) Ivanhoe is the Centre of the Australian Population - Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2008.

It too has a hole in it, to allow people to stick their faces through.

Signs on entering and leaving would make use of a smiley face and a sad face

**H A P P Y
T – C - YA
H E R E !**

S A D

**T – C – YA
G O !**

Concept 4

This one goes back to the “heart” idea, but it incorporates a strong and emotional line:

IVANHOE – The heart of Australians.

(Small) Ivanhoe is the Centre of the Australian Population - Australian Bureau of Statistics, June 2008.

Signs on entering and leaving would simply say:

Welcome to the heart of Australians.

Bye from the heart of Australians.

The sign in the centre of town would be a heart. It would be great if it was three dimensional and quite large. It is still supported by another sign saying “Picture yourself here!”

The concepts are called “roughs” they are able to be changed and once council has settled on a design the artwork will be produced that will be used to print the signs.

It was agreed that the concepts be referred to the Ivanhoe Works Committee and put out for a period of public exhibition and comment.

RECOMMENDATION

That council review the concepts attached, select or modify a concept and have the artwork and signs produced then erected in Ivanhoe as soon as possible.

28-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Brown that the Ivanhoe Geographic Centre of Australia's Population Signage Proposal be referred to the Ivanhoe Works Committee to be placed on public exhibition.

MOTION CARRIED

7.8 City of Ryde Memorandum of Understanding Community Advisory Meeting

The partnership between the City of Ryde and the Central Darling Shire has been progressing along steadily, to date we have had a visit from the COR planning staff and they have been working on the start of a mainstreet program for Wilcannia and Menindee. Council is advised that The City of Ryde Community Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet again on November 26th and after discussions with staff and committee representatives a draft agenda has been formulated;

- Opening of Meeting- Acting General Manager, Kim Woodbury
- Mayor, City of Ryde, Clr Michael Butterworth/ Mayor Central Darling, Clr Ray Longfellow Brief statement on Council's on going commitment to partnership
 - Brief Presentation on Actions Taken from inaugural meeting- City of Ryde/ Central Darling
 - Presentation by Central Darling-Proposed approach and project/s for 2010.This would be main item and would be either generally discussed or discussed in small groups as set up at previous meeting
 - Agreement on how we can better communicate in future ie video conferencing
 - Civic Leadership and how community representatives can be better engaged in partnership

Council are asked to consider point three of the agenda, it has been suggested that a closer relationship with the Macquarie University be pursued, members of the CoR Advisory committee have good contacts with the university, the university could be asked to consider a commitment to the Central Darling Shire by the way of a remote campus that would specialize in social inclusion, archaeology and anthropology as examples.

It is seen as a project of this nature could work well for both councils and be seen as a collaborative example of how a city and a country council can work together.

RECOMMENDATION

That council consider the project proposal and nominate councillor representatives to attend the meeting.

29-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Page, Seconded Clr Linnett that council consider the project proposal and nominate councillor representatives to attend the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 8. RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Correspondence for Council be received and noted.

30-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Correspondence for Council be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.1 Media Releases

Date	Sender	Contents
6/11/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Congratulates Hay on 150 Years
6/11/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams: Keep Watch Home Pool Safety Campaign This Weekend
6/11/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Supports TAFE Teachers Battle
4/011/2009	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	National CDL System Long Overdue - Ministers Must Act Now
2/11/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Says Community Building Partnership Shows Lack of Government Support
30/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Accuses NSW Government of Health Budget 'Cover Up'
30/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Positive Aging Grant Applications Open
30/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Labels 2009-2010 State Budget 'A Disaster'
30/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Some Graziers Can Not Afford Dust Storm Assistance
28/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	More houses, Jobs for the Murray-Darling: Williams
28/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Residents Should Consider Rainwater Tank Subsidies
28/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Mad Max Movie A Welcomed Win for the Broken Hill Economy
28/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Final Fight Against Increased Heavy Vehicle Registration: Williams
28/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Alarmed By Dementia Epidemic Report
27/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Warns Mobile Phone users Dangers of Calling 000
26/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Welcomes Home Renal Dialysis Patients
26/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams: Water Services Review Could Ruin Some Residents, Businesses
23/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Says Future Grim for Dalwood Assessment Centre
23/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Highlights Problems With Proposed Truancy Bill

21/10/2009	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Cost Shift Bill Escalates as State Wipes Hands of Communities
21/10/2009	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Shaping Local Government of the Future
21/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Slams Premier for Closure of Dalwood Assessment Centre
21/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Congratulates Pastoral Times on 150 Years
20/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Wishes Students Well in HSC
20/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Welcomes NSW Carers Week
20/10/2009	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Healthy Community grant Applications Closing - NSW Councils Urged not to miss chance at funding
10/20/2009	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Planning Award Win Highlights Importance of NRM
19/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Interstate Emergency Ambulance Rides Remain Free for Pensioners
14/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Investigates RTA Rumours
14/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Welcomes Natural Disaster Relief Payments for Far West NSW Graziers
14/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Interstate Emergency Ambulance Rides Remain Free for Pensioners
12/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	A Little Night Sitting At NSW Parliament
12/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams: Drought Report Proof that more Assistance Needed
12/10/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams: Government Continues to Under-Fund Necessary Services
30/9/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Citizen Awards for Young People Now Open: Williams
21/9/2009	Member For Murray-Darling	Williams Says we're All Sick of Being Stonewalled

8.2 Circular/Newsletters

Sender	Date	Contents
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	6/11/2009	Local Government Weekly 44/09
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	4/11/2009	Election Funding Authority - Practice of Providing Copies of Disclosure Declaration Superseded
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	30/10/2009	Local Government Weekly 43/09
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	26/10/2009	Tendering Guidelines for NSW Local Government
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	23/10/2009	Local Government Weekly 42/09
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	23/10/2009	2010 Ministers' Awards For Women in Local Government - Call for Nominations
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	14/10/2009	Commencement of the Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009

**SECTION 9. THE RECEPTION OF REPORTS FROM
COMMITTEES**

RECOMMENDATION

That the reports from Committees be received and noted

31-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Reid that the reports from Committees be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

9.1 MANEX Meeting 19th October 2009

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the minutes of the MANEX Meeting held 19th October 2009.

32-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council receive and note the minutes of the MANEX Meeting held 19th October 2009.

MOTION CARRIED

9.2 Menindee Lake Plantation Reserve 355 Committee Meeting Minutes

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the minutes of the Menindee Lake Plantation Reserve 355 committee meeting.

33-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Page, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council receive and note the minutes of the Menindee Lake Plantation Reserve 355 committee meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

MANEX Meeting held Monday 19th October 2009

Meeting Commenced at 11:30am

Present:

Tim Hazell	General Manager
Reece Wilson	Manager Technical and Engineering Services
Leeanne Ryan	Manager Environmental Services
Kym Fuller	Manager Community and Economic Development
Mel Brown	Executive Manager

Apologies

Nil

Previous Minutes

Nil

Matters Arising From Previous Minutes

Nil

Outstanding Council Resolutions & Other Issues

- Wilcannia Weir – MTES to prepare correspondence to the Department of Water and Energy to query the process to undertake repairs.
- Bike Ramp/Skate Park – the MCED to discuss with Brendan Adams
- Darnick to Ivanhoe road grids – Issue has been inspected, MTES to discuss with land owner and grader operator
- Bonley Creek Bridge – completed, approaches yet to be sealed and guard rails installed
- Wanaaring Road – no available water to grade.
- Ivanhoe centre of Australia's population – MCED prepared and sent out media release
- Letter to Silverlea – MES sent corro, no response received
- Reclassification of Wilcannia Common – report to October Council meeting
- Quotes for Toilets at Crick Park and Shade sails in Menindee – report to October Council meeting
- Date for Hard Rubbish Day – 12th November 2009
- Painting of Power poles in Wilcannia – MTES sent correspondence to Country Energy. Applied for grant funding. Will require CE rep on site, Tige Pineo has agreed.
- Fluoridation of Wilcannia water – MTES sent correspondence to Advisory Committee

Staff Issues

Various employee union related issues were discussed and outcomes agreed upon.

Occupational Health and Safety

Other Business

i. Manager Technical and Engineering Services

The GM formally welcomed Mr Reece Wilson to the MANEX team upon his appointment as Manager Technical and Engineering Services.

ii. Agenda

The MANEX discussed the Agenda for the October Council meeting.

iii. Alarm Call Outs

The MES informed the MANEX that a number of alarm callouts have been received recently with many of them coming from the Wilcannia Depot.

The MES to follow up how much the Ranger has costed to alarm call outs over the recent months.

iv. Plant Replacement Program

The MTES to obtain quotes for Patrols, Prados and Land Cruisers for Managers, Statesman for the GM and Hilux for the Works Engineer and present to MANEX.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12:55pm

Menindee Lake Plantation Reserve 355 Committee

Meeting held Sat.07/11/09.

Present:

John Brennan, John Preston, Bob and Joanne Duncan, Kathy Reid

CDSC Rep Moya Reid

Moya to follow up @ key for front door of hall

Update for Hotwater service

Update for hall funding

Still waiting for signs to be replaced

at tip

General Discussion:

Progress Association has secured insurance for contents of hall, being all moveable contents of hall

A working bee to be organised to replace @ 1 k of fencing on the reserve that has been destroyed .

Moya to contact Council to enquire about availability of fencing materials i.e posts, strainers and wire for the committee to use

Progress meeting to be held on Sunday 15/11/09

SECTION 10. DELEGATES REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Delegates reports be received and noted.

34-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Delegates reports be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Linnett

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION – REGION 4

On the 29th October, I attended a meeting of the above at the Council Chambers in Broken Hill.

The meeting was conducted by Chair Allison McTaggart and there was a late apology for health reasons from the General Manager of the Murray Darling Association Ray Najjar and also from Jo Haw, the Regional Administrator. All shires in the region were represented at the meeting.

Firstly, there was a report on the National Conference and AGM held in Adelaide in September, 2009 and business arising from the meeting.

Mr Stan Deneen, who has been involved with the Broken Hill Water Board since 1983, was the guest speaker and he gave a very detailed report on the Menindee Lakes projects. Stan gave an excellent report and answered many questions but as he is the only private member on the project, things are not happening as fast as he would like and the Federal Government will not spend any money on the projects until everything is completely signed off for the lakes.

He said there is some 1600 models to be dealt with for the project and some of the items in the Federal Governments \$400 million to save evaporation etc. include: Aboriginal Heritage, Broken Hill Water Supply, Efficiency, different outlet models for various lakes, Social Economic Study and Impact Assessment and Climate Change etc.

It was mentioned by a person in attendance that the Federal Government is delaying tactics and only wish to make a start prior to the next election and there is suppose to be a report to the Government by the end of the year. It was also reported that some lakes have been dry for 7 years and now was the time to make a start on the structure across the Menindee Lake.

It appeared to me that the Darling River Action Group (DRAG) is being negative on some issues with the model of the lakes.

In conclusion, the Diversion of the Clarence got another mention and I spoke of the problems we had some 15 years ago when the Western Shires toured the Clarence Valley and we were lucky to get out of some towns as they said we were there to take their river.

I will comment further verbally.

CR. LINNETT
LONG PADDOCK SCULPTURES

Cr. Clive and Fay Linnett attended the Official Launch of Artback- Sculptures of the Long Paddock last Friday evening which was held at the Black Swamp, half way between Hay and Deniliquin. Some 100 invited guests attended the function and many travelled from Hay, Deniliquin and Booroorban to the venue by bus.

The Long Paddock covers five shires whose banners were on display and they include Central Darling, Hay, Conargo, Deniliquin & Murray.

The President of the Long Paddock Committee Peter McCrabb, welcomed all guests to the Launch followed by a local identity Alex Allit who recited poems which he wrote about some driving history of the Long Paddock. This was followed by an address from Gilli Williams (Ausindustry) on behalf of the Federal Minister for Tourism, the Hon. Martin Ferguson. The Official Launch was carried out by special guest Sam Armytage, presenter of Channel Sevens 'Weekend Sunrise' as she was a regular visitor to Hay as a child.

The Black Swamp is the site of the Headless Horseman Sculpture and the highlight of the evening was driver Graham Mansell from Deniliquin & his staff on horseback who had 600 Poll Hereford cows & calves in the back ground milling to re-inact "The Legend of the Headless Horeseman" in the early days which was spectacular and at the same time a 100 Long Paddock balloons were released. The committee and guests were well catered for with refreshments and canapés over the two hour period.

It is anticipated that on Sunday 22nd November, there will be a coverage of the event on the 'Sunrise' morning show on channel seven.

On the return to Hay, the bus driver allowed his passengers an extended half hour at the Booroorban Hotel.

There was an apology from Mayor Ray and Jan Longfellow and Tim Hazell, General Manager of Central Darling Shire.

35-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that standing orders be suspended

MOTION CARRIED

Standing orders suspended at 12:00pm

Representatives of the NSW Rural Fire Service, Mr Chris Favelle, Local Manager, Mr Dominic Lane, Assistant Commissioner – Director Regional Services and Mr Paul Smith, Manager – Region West addressed the Council regarding the various issues concerning the RFS in Western NSW. They also thanked Council for their continued support.

36-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that standing orders be resumed

MOTION CARRIED

Standing orders resumed at 12:20pm

SECTION 11. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Councillors Questions with Notice be received and noted.

37-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Page, Seconded Clr Reid that the Councillors Questions with Notice be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Brown

Vacant Block Adjacent to Shire Chambers

Approx 2 months ago there were rumours that this was to be used for a building to provide additional office space.

Has this concept been developed further?

Is it included in the Management Plan?

If not in the plan but is being progressed why hasn't it been referred to Council?

If it is being progressed what budget is being discussed and where will it be funded from?

Rates Notices Shire Owned Residential Properties.

Can the GM confirm that all residential properties owned by CDSC are rated for filtered and raw water and sewerage connections?

Are these amounts paid into water/ sewerage accounts and debited against CDSC Housing Costs?

Cost of Erroneous Property Sale – Menindee

What has been the total cost of this including legal costs?

How much has been, or is expected to be, recovered from Insurance?

Industrial

Is it true that outside contractors are or have been used to service sewerage connections because of Industrial Issues?

Response:

1. No.
2. No.
3. Not applicable.

4. Not applicable.
5. Yes, a check of each property is to be conducted to ensure that this is the case.
6. These amounts are paid to the applicable rates assessment account with the cost debited to a specific job cost account for Council housing costs.
7. That fact that the sale may or may not have been erroneous has not be determined. Direct costs of \$24,581.92 have been incurred.
8. The insurance company has reimbursed Council \$11,955.96. Council also retained \$1,800 from the initial sale of land.
9. Yes.

Councillor Reid

Loan to Boomerangs Football Club

When was the initial verbal agreement made?

What was the actual date the agreement was signed?

When was the money paid to Boomerangs Football Club?

Have any monies other than the \$5000 loan been paid to Boomerangs since Dec. 08

Has the Mayor acted on Council Resolution 3-7-09 (Sunset Strip meeting) and if so what was the outcome?

Response:

1. Initial discussions were ongoing since late 2008, with a formal letter sent to the Boomerangs on the 11th February 2009.
2. The agreement was signed by Central Darling Shire Council on the 22nd May 2009. The original agreement was misplaced by the Boomerangs so a subsequent copy was signed by the club in October 2009.
3. No money has been paid to the Boomerangs, an amount of \$3,558.50 was paid to the firm Kombat for the supply of football jerseys, shorts and socks.
4. No.
5. Response from the Mayor: The matter has been raised and the actions of the General Manager are regarded as being outside of his delegations. I have appropriately counselled the General Manager over this issue and he has given an undertaking to not repeat these actions.

SECTION 12. URGENT BUSINESS

RECOMMENDATION

That Urgent Business be received and noted.

38-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Page, Seconded Clr Wellings that Urgent Business be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

The Mayor informed Council regarding the sale of Country Energy's retail operations in NSW. He noted that the NSW Premier has announced many infrastructure projects in Metropolitan Sydney will be funded by the sale of the retail energy operations.

39-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Page that correspondence be send to the NSW Premier objecting to the comments and perception of the Premiers commitment to sell the retail arm of Country Energy to fund infrastructure projects in metropolitan Sydney.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Page requested access to the \$75,000 funding available for town improvements to Menindee to complete a variety of projects.

The Mayor requested that Councillors Page and Reid collate a list of projects that require undertaking/completion ensuring adequate public consultation.

SECTION 13. PUBLIC ACCESS - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs Di Hoffman addressed the Council regarding the following topics:

- Tabled the options paper for the White Cliffs Health Services
- Tabled a tourism survey of visitors to White Cliffs
- The issue of not being able to access Council machines for work required at the Caravan Park when tradesmen are in town to complete jobs
- Requested that the roads within the Caravan Park be repaired once the power and water lines have been installed.
- An update on the free holding of the dugouts in White Cliffs.
- What does the Shire expect to get from the Cultural Mapping survey that was recently distributed.
- Access to the tags for the overhead pipe and stand pipe for the Rural Fire Service.

Mrs Hoffman thanked the Council, Councillors and Staff on behalf of the White Cliffs Community for the support given.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45pm, resuming at 1:45pm

SECTION 14. CONFIDENTIAL MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council formally close the meeting to the public to discuss matters in accordance with Section 10 (2) (d) (i) being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, Section 10(2)(e) of the Local Government Act, 1993 in order to discuss information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and Section 10(2)(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

40-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Ctr Sullivan, Seconded Ctr Linnett that Council formally close the meeting to the public to discuss matters in accordance with Section 10 (2) (d) (i) being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, Section 10(2)(e) of the Local Government Act, 1993 in order to discuss information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and Section 10(2)(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

MOTION CARRIED

- 14.1 Victory Park Caravan Park
- 14.2 Wilcannia Caravan Park Proposal
- 14.3 War Memorial Menindee
- 14.4 Rates and Charges

All Staff remained in the Hall.

41-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett That Council does not provide funding of \$20,000 per annum to Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation to assist manage Victory Park Caravan Park.

That Council does not waiver the rent on the Caretakers House.

MOTION CARRIED

41-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett That Council does not provide funding of \$20,000 per annum to Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation to assist manage Victory Park Caravan Park.

That Council does not waiver the rent on the Caretakers House.

MOTION CARRIED

42-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Sullivan That senior staff undertake the required due diligence.

MOTION CARRIED

43-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Reid that a further offer be made for the purchase of 43 Menindee Street, Menindee to the amount of the minimum acceptable to the current owner, with each party to be responsible for their own legal costs.

MOTION CARRIED

44-11-09 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the interest charges on the assessment be written off.

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 15. FIXING DATES AND VENUES FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council will be held on the 15th December 2009 in Wilcannia, commencing at 9:00am

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 2:22pm
