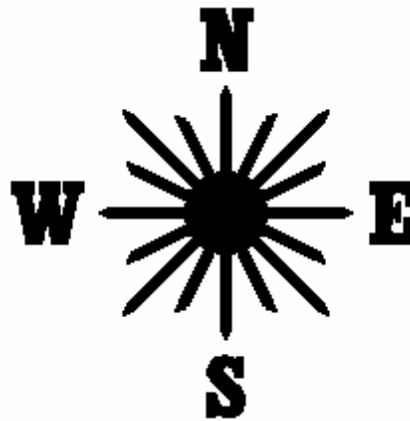


**Mission Statement**

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

# **CENTRAL DARLING**



# **SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Minutes**

**For the Ordinary Meeting**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2005**

**at**

**Wilcannia**

**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 Council Chambers, Wilcannia on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2005 commencing at 9:13 am.

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**SECTION 1. RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES AND THE  
GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors:

Peter Sullivan

Graham Wellings

Barbara MacMillan

Anthony Pease

Paul Brown

Mike Arandt

Moya Reid

Suzie Fisher

Clive Linnett

Ray Longfellow

Robert Vagg

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Mr Bill O'Brien

General Manager

Mr Tim Hazell

Director of Corporate Services

Mr Russell Bow

Director of Engineering Services

Mrs Leeanne Ryan

Manager of Environmental Services

Mrs Sharon Hutch

Manager of Community Development

Mrs Marilyn O'Brien

Senior Administration Officer

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Rick Doyle

***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the apologies be received and noted***

---

***1-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded  
Clr Linnett that the apologies be received and  
noted***

***MOTION CARRIED***

## SECTION 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

### *RECOMMENDATION*

*That the minutes of the previous meeting be received*

---

*2-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett That the minutes of the previous meeting be received*

### *MOTION CARRIED*

### *RECOMMENDATION*

*That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted*

---

*3-2-05 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**

## **2.2 Notices of Motion/Rescission**

### **2.2.1 Agenda Item and Motion for February 2005 Council Meeting**

#### **Agenda Item**

#### **Wilcannia Community Action Plan — Workshop**

On February 1st up to 30 residents of Wilcannia attended a 6 hour workshop to review the recommendations of the draft Wilcannia Community Action Plan. The Plan had been presented to the Wilcannia Community Working Party Meeting in January 2005.

The outcome of the workshop was a determination to support the concepts of the plan and as part of that determination, to increase the community involvement and representation on the Community Working Party. A number of community members have been nominated and accepted as representatives of the community.

#### **Motion**

That Council recognise the actions of the Wilcannia Community, and, the General Manager, as Council's Representative on the Working Party, be instructed to support the acceptance of the community representatives on the Wilcannia Community Working Party.

Moved:

of the community representatives



Cr. Paul Brown

Seconded:

Cr. Barbara McMillan

*Barbara MacMillan.*

The Mayor ruled that this item will be discussed in a Confidential Meeting, scheduled as Section 15 of the Agenda.

The Mayor explained that according to the Local Government Act, Section 10A (2) (a) if personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) are to be discussed, the meeting should be deemed Confidential.

## SECTION 3. MAYORAL MINUTE OR REPORT

### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Mayoral Report be received and noted*

---

*4-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett,  
Seconded Clr Wellings that the Mayoral Report  
be received and noted*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

The Mayor gave a verbal report on the decision by the Director of Engineering Services and the Mayor to impose water restrictions in Ivanhoe over Christmas. It was not a popular or easy decision, but one that had to be made.

The Mayor thanked the people of White Cliffs and the Deputy Mayor Cr Graham Wellings for their hospitality on Australia Day. It was a great day, White Cliffs should be proud.

The Mayor also attended a meeting along with the Director of Engineering Services, in Menindee with the Consultants who are conducting the Environmental Impact Statement on the Menindee Lakes. There are a couple of changes to the original plan, but we could see no reason why Council would object to the proposed changes.

The Mayor also represented Council at a National Parks and Wildlife meeting in Broken Hill.



## SECTION 4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That the General Manager's report be received and dealt with*

**5-2-05** *Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Arandt, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the General Manager's report be received and dealt with*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **4.1 Information Items**

##### **4.1.1 Local Government Remuneration Tribunal**

Pursuant to Section 243 of the Local Government Act 1993. The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal is required to make an annual determination, by no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2005, on fees payable to Councillors and Mayors to take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005.

Council has been advised that the Tribunal has commenced its review for the 2005 determination and to invite submissions from all Councils. The Tribunal will be undertaking a review of the minimum fee levels for each Category. Submissions are invited from all Councils on the appropriateness of the current levels.

##### **4.1.2 2005 – 2006 Management Plan**

Section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to prepare an Annual Management Plan detailing the proposed activities of the Council for the ensuing twelve months.

Council will need to consider a process and time schedule for the preparation and adoption of the 2005 – 2006 Management Plan. The following is a recommended schedule:

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>March 2005:</b> | Full Council "Workshop" to consider the Principal Activities to be contained within the 2005 – 2006 Management Plan  |
| <b>April 2005</b>  | A Presentation to Council of the Draft Management Plan & Financials.   |
| <b>May 2005</b>    | Final Draft Management Plan for public exhibition – As has been previous practice, the Council meeting date will need to be re-scheduled to the second week in May 2005 to allow sufficient time for the 2005 – 2006 draft Management Plan to be on public exhibition for the regulatory 28 day period |
| <b>June 2005</b>   | Review public submissions and adopt the final 2005 – 2006 Management Plan. The Council meeting will need to be re-scheduled to the fourth week to allow for the regulatory 28 day public exhibition phase.   |

It is vital that that the regulatory time frame for the adoption of the Management Plan is safely met.

##### **4.1.3 Old Wilcannia Bridge**

On Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2005 at around 2.30am the Wilcannia Brigade of the Rural Fire Service were called to extinguish a fire in the wooden structures of the Old Wilcannia Bridge. The fire was

contained to the beams in the middle of the bridge and provided a considerable challenge to the fire fighters present. The fire took around two hours to extinguish. The Police Service attended and will investigate the matter and prepare a report.

As a result of the fire the bridge has suffered considerable structural damage and has been immediately closed to pedestrian traffic. An Engineers report will be required to assess the damage after which a full report will be prepared for Council. Council's Engineering Division responded immediately and has erected a "permanent" fence at each end of the bridge with appropriate signage attached which will remain in place till such time the bridge is re-opened to pedestrians.

#### **4.1.4 Volunteer Small Equipment Grants Program**

Council has been advised by the Federal Member for Parkes John Cobb MP applications are now open for community organisations to apply for funding under the Australian Government's 2005 Volunteer Small Equipment Grants Program.

Under the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants, community organisations can apply to receive up to \$3,000 each to help purchase small equipment items to assist their operations. A number of Organisations in Central Darling Shire have been successful in the past in accessing funds under this program and community groups are certainly encouraged to apply. Council can assist in the application process on request and applications forms and guidelines are available from the Department of Community Services. Applications close Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2005

#### **4.1.5 NSW State Parliamentarians Visit**

The following New South Wales State Parliamentarians will visit Wilcannia on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2005 between 9.30am – 11am as part of a travelling "Nationals" tour of Western New South Wales. The delegation will be met by Mayor Peter Sullivan, the General Manager and the Chairman of the Wilcannia Community Working Party William Bates. Law & Order issues and the Ivanhoe Water Supply along with Roads are the main topics of discussion.

##### **Andrew Stoner**

Leader of the Nationals in NSW  
Shadow Minister for Natural Resources  
Shadow Minister for Regional Services

##### **The Hon Duncan Gay**

Leader of the Nationals in the Legislative Council  
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council  
Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

##### **Peter Debnam MP**

Shadow Minister for Police (Liberal)

##### **Adrian Piccoli MP**

Shadow Minister for Mineral Resources  
Shadow Minister assisting the Leader on Ethnic Affairs

##### **The Hon Rick Colless MLC**

Nationals spokesperson for Murray Darling

**The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC**

**Ian Slack-Smith MP**

Member for Barwon

The General Manager explained to Council that this meeting occurred after the Agenda was printed, so the General Manager reported to Council the outcomes. The Ivanhoe water issues took up a lot of the discussion, also the Wilcannia Weir and the Catchment Management Authority (CMA) boundaries. Central Darling Shire Council have 3 CMAs within the Shire.

Some Councillors voiced concerns that Councillors were not invited to this meeting.

The General Manager explained that the Mayor, the General Manager and the Chairman of the Wilcannia Community Working Party were the only invitees to this meeting.

#### **4.1.6 Wilcannia Police Station**

Council has been advised by the NSW Police Service of an intended major upgrade of their facilities at Wilcannia. It is anticipated funding in the vicinity of \$900,000 will be made available to improve and upgrade the Police Station building and attached facilities and structures at Wilcannia..

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***For Councils information***

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#### **4.2 Australian Local Government Women's Association NSW Conference**

The 2005 Australian Local Government Women's Association (NSW) will be held at the Albury Convention Centre from Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 20 – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2005. Council has previously supported representation at the conference.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council appoint delegates to the 2005 Annual Conference of the Australian Women's Association (NSW) being held at Albury NSW from the 17<sup>th</sup> March – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2005***

---

***6-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings,  
Seconded Clr Linnett That Council appoint Cr  
Barbara MacMillan and Cr Moya Reid as  
delegates to the 2005 Annual Conference of the  
Australian Women's Association (NSW) being  
held at Albury NSW from the 17th March / 20th  
March 2005***

***MOTION CARRIED***

#### **4.3 Computer Training & IT Support**

In late 2004 the Federal Department of Communications Information Technology and the Arts (DCITA) acknowledged that many people living in remote areas of the western region of NSW required basic computer training and support where it is not commercially available.

In partnership with Orana Employment Cooperative Council has been successful in obtaining funding support to role out a major Computer & IT Training support program. This training and support will be available to eligible participants, free of charge, living in the region. The training will be available in Menindee, White Cliffs, Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Tilpa.

The program would be conducted by Orana Employment Cooperative Ltd and coordinated by Central Darling Shire Council. Full details of the program will be distributed within each town.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council supports the Computer & IT Support program and actively promotes participation from residents of Central Darling Shire.***

---

***7-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Longfellow that Council supports the Computer & IT Support program and actively promotes participation from residents of Central Darling Shire.***

#### ***MOTION CARRIED***

#### **4.4 Community Access Bus Program – Menindee & Wilcannia**

The current contract to provide the daily Community Access Bus Service to Broken Hill from Menindee and Wilcannia expires on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2005. Council has been informed by the Greater Western Area Health Service that recurrent funding for a further three year period has been secured to continue the Community Access Bus Program. Funding sources are as follows:

- **NSW Department of Transport**
- **Department of Ageing Disability & Homecare**
- **Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation**

It is anticipated that tender specifications for the three year contract period will be prepared inviting operators to express interest in providing the service as soon as all funding has been formally secured and funding agreements have been officially confirmed.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Community Access Bus Program report be received and noted***

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***8-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Community Access Bus Program report be received and noted***

***MOTION CARRIED***

**4.5 Menindee Lakes Caravan Park**

Council is required to issue an Approval to Operate the Menindee Lakes Caravan Park by the Trust on an annual basis and would be aware the current Approval to Operate expired on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2004. In order for a recommendation to be made to Council that this Approval to Operate be renewed, the Menindee Lakes Caravan Park Trust has been requested to work toward full compliance of all fixed structures contained within the Park and comply with relevant Legislation.

The Menindee Lakes Caravan Park Trust has agreed to the engagement of a structural engineer to undertake the required site inspections and Council will assist in the facilitation of this process. There are around 50 Van Owners (site holders) who have agreed to these inspections and the need for an Engineers Certification to be applied to the rigid annexes and associated structures. The cost of the inspection has been averaged out at \$200 per site and it is believed in the vicinity of \$10,000 has been collected. The Trust has agreed to transfer these funds to Central Darling Shire Council and upon receipt will, on behalf of the Trust, make the necessary arrangements to engage a Structural Engineer to undertake this task. The cooperation of the Menindee Lakes Caravan Park Trust is to be commended in addressing this matter and Council are confident the Trust is working toward full compliance in the future. Council may consider issuing an Approval to Operate conditional on the engagement of a Structural Engineer to undertake the necessary inspections.

***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council endorses the actions of the Manager Environmental Services and the General Manager and considers the renewal of the operating licence to the Menindee Lakes Caravan Park subject to a Structural Engineer commencing the inspection and issuing compliance certificates of the annexes and fixed structures on site and associated with existing van owners located within the Park.***

---

The General Manager said he would like to commend the Manager of Environmental Services and the Mandatory Inspections Officer for their efforts in this matter.

***9-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Longfellow that Council endorses the actions of the Manager Environmental Services and the General Manager and considers the renewal of the operating licence to the Menindee Lakes Caravan Park subject to a Structural Engineer commencing the inspection***

*and issuing compliance certificates of the annexes and fixed structures on site and associated with existing van owners located within the Park.*

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

#### **4.6 Local Government & Shires Association of NSW – Request Financial Assistance**

Hurstville City Council has approached the Associations for assistance with its legal costs in an appeal from a Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court.

In 1999 the Council considered and refused two applications under SEPP5 to construct housing for older persons on two properties in Stoney Creek Road, Beverly Hills. The applications were refused on the grounds relating to the property's access to services. An appeal to the Commissioner of the Court was upheld, and the court granted development approval. The Council successfully appealed on a point of law to a Judge of the Court, and a re-hearing was ordered. In August 2000 the matters were re-heard before the same Commissioner, and again they were approved. The Council contends that the Commissioner made the same error as he had done at the first hearing, and has appealed again, on this occasion seeking an order that the matters be heard by a different Commissioner

The Council submits that a decision in its favour will be of benefit to all Councils as it will establish a general principle concerning the level of a special design required of SEPP5 applications. The appeal should establish the appropriate criteria to be required under clause 12(1) of the SEPP in assessing whether "reasonable" access to services is provided. Given the concern which presently exists as to the extent to which SEPP is being misused, the case will be of value if it does this.

The Council incurred the sum of \$51,853 in defending its position. Council has received a request from the Local Government & shires Association of NSW to assist with legal costs attached to a judgement awarded against the Hurstville City Council and contribute the amount of \$195 calculated in accordance with the usual formula

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That in accordance with accepted and normal practice and based on a pro-rata formula Council contribute \$195 toward the cost of the appeal by the Hurstville City Council***

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***10-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Arandt that in accordance with accepted and normal practice and based on a pro-rata formula Council contribute \$195 toward the cost of the appeal by the Hurstville City Council***

## ***MOTION CARRIED***

### **4.7 Federal Tourism Promotion Group – John Cobb MP**

Council would be aware the Federal Member for Parkes John Cobb MP secured \$600,000 prior to the last Federal election to promote tourism in the Broken Hill region over a three year period commencing 2003. A Federal Tourism Promotion Group was formed and a number of marketing initiatives were implemented at a cost of \$200,000. The General Manager has been appointed a member of the Federal Tourism Promotion Group representing both Central Darling Shire Council and the Outback Area Consultative Committee and will play a pro-active role in ensuring appropriate tourism marketing activities are developed and implemented.

In order to provide a clear direction and maximise the remaining funds, the Federal Tourism Promotion Group, in cooperation with the Broken Hill City Council who are facilitating the project, developed Strategic Plan 2004 - 2005

There are three main elements identified in the Strategic Plan 2004 – 2005:

- Development of a fully automated e-commerce website for the region – Cost \$50,000
- Development and distribution of a high quality destination brochure – Cost \$180,000
- Creative destination marketing campaigns to support the above – Cost \$170,000

**Total \$400,000**

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Federal Tourism Promotion Group report be received and noted.***

---

***11-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Pease that the Federal Tourism Promotion Group report be received and noted.***

## ***MOTION CARRIED***

### **4.8 A R Bluett Memorial Award 2003 – 2004**

Council were invited to submit an entry for the 2003 – 2004 A R Bluett Award and submission has been prepared and submitted on behalf of Council. Entries closed on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

The A R Bluett Memorial Award is the most coveted Local Government accolade in NSW and has been awarded annually since 1945 to the Councils which have made the greatest relative progress. Each year there is one award for a member Council of the Local Government association of NSW and one for a member Council of the Shires Association of NSW. Winners are announced at the Annual Conference of the Local Government & Association held in Sydney during June 2005.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the A R Bluett Award report be received and noted***

---

*12-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings,  
Seconded Clr Pease that the A R Bluett Award  
report be received and noted*

***MOTION CARRIED***

**4.9 Wilcannia Caravan Park – Victory Park**

Council would be aware as a result of the Aboriginal Housing Development Program being undertaken at Wilcannia the Wilcannia Caravan Park (Victory Park) the Building Contractors (OBIC) relocated a number of families to the Park. As a direct result of this unauthorised action it has been necessary to close this facility to the public since March 2004.

A substantial compensation claim for the period the Wilcannia Caravan Park has been closed (March – December 2004) has been submitted to the NSW Department of Commerce and the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs being the program managers. To date no response to this claim has been received despite many requests. An additional claim will be made covering the current period using the same schedule of costs.

Notwithstanding, at a recent meeting between Council and the building contractors, a request was made that the contractors make arrangements to immediately (within seven days) remove the three vans in question. It was suggested and there is clear evidence the vans were in a dilapidated state and were not being used for the purpose they were originally placed on site for, instead, groups of local people were using the area around the vans as a place to meet and consume alcohol. The contractors agreed to this request and immediate arrangements were made to remove the vans from the site.

Preparations will now be undertaken to initially re-open the park to visitors as soon as possible. It is recommended that negotiations commence the Wilcannia Shell Service Station (Rob Gibson) to recommence managing this facility on behalf of Council under the existing arrangements, after which a complete report to Council will be prepared containing a range of options for the future operation and management of the park.

***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Wilcannia Caravan Park Report be received and noted***

---

*13-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded  
Clr Longfellow that the Wilcannia Caravan Park  
Report be received and noted*

***MOTION CARRIED***

**4.10 Western Catchment Management Authority**

This item has been held over from the December 2004 Council meeting pending further information received.



Council would be aware that the NSW State Government has established thirteen Catchment Management Authorities across the State. Each Authority is required to prepare a Catchment Action Plan by December 2005. The Western Catchment Management Authority covers part of Central Darling Shire.

The current boundaries of many Catchment Management Authorities are of concern, for example Walgett Shire is covered by four CMA's.

A "draft" Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been prepared between Western Division member Councils and the Western Catchment Management Authority. It is recommended that Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding and work toward an integrated and cooperative planning process that would interface the Catchment Action Plan and Council's Local Environmental Plan as required by the Minister for Natural Resources.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council adopts the provisions contained in the Memorandum of Understanding between the identified Western Division Shire Councils including Central Darling Shire Council and the Western Catchment Management Authority and Council sign the documents accordingly.***

---

***14-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Linnett that Council adopts the provisions contained in the Memorandum of Understanding between the identified Western Division Shire Councils including Central Darling Shire Council and the Western Catchment Management Authority and Council sign the documents accordingly.***

***And that Council Suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr Ted Davies to address Council.***

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

The Mayor introduced Mr Ted Davies, who thanked Council for allowing him to address Council.

Mr Davies spoke about the re-evaluation of land throughout Central Darling, and how in some instances the valuations have risen 125%, although many services e.g. overnight bus service, have been taken away.

Mr Davies thanked Council for taking a proactive stance in this matter by pointing out to all rural landholders how they can go about protesting to the Valuer General.

Mr Davies congratulated Council on their AR Bluett Award nomination. He said this is a very prestigious award, and for Council to even put in a nomination was an outstanding achievement.

Mr Davies asked for Council's assistance with a submission to Telstra on behalf of the few rural ratepayers who are inside the 32km boundary for satellite broadband. He said his internet connection is so bad sometimes it can take up to 12 minutes to download a page. There are three or four households around Wilcannia, with about the same number around Ivanhoe with the same problem.

Mr Davies thanked Council for allowing him to address them.

*15-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett,  
Seconded Clr Arandt that Council Resume  
Standing Orders*

***MOTION CARRIED***

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*The meeting adjourned at 11:00am and resumed at 11:25am*

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SECTION 5. DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT</b></p>
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***RECOMMENDATION***

*That the Director of Corporate Services report be received and dealt with*

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*16-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded  
Clr Longfellow that the Director of Corporate  
Services report be received and dealt with*

***MOTION CARRIED***

**5.1 Rates Collection Statement**

The rate collection statement for the month of January is provided for information.

ITEM	ARREARS		LEVIES				INTEREST	RECEIPTS	WRITE-OFFS	GOVT SUB	OVER-PAYMENT	TOTAL
	ARREAR	INT ARREARS	RATES	WATER	DR SUPP	CR SUPP						
<b>Wilcannia</b>												
General	34,345.81	11,953.93	49,957.80	-	-	535.05	1,493.23	31,452.97	509.19	1,047.03	-	64,206.53
Special Rate	5,015.03	1,415.75	7,903.56	-	-	65.53	216.85	5,134.21	108.63	-	-	9,242.82
Water	88,009.47	23,681.76	145,120.00	-	500.00	404.67	3,739.01	95,406.01	1,155.72	1,443.75	-	162,640.09
Water-Filtered	9,749.49	8,660.24	-	-	-	-	403.50	1,517.29	266.37	-	-	17,029.57
Sewer	50,648.66	20,646.41	92,550.00	-	350.00	350.00	1,927.76	67,298.07	0.03	962.50	-	97,512.23
Garbage	27,835.18	8,447.43	50,245.00	-	160.00	77.83	1,090.58	35,685.99	390.57	1,256.47	-	50,367.33
Excess Water	75,815.68	10,457.46	23.00	60,649.25	1,103.20	1,125.70	1,992.35	79,308.74	159.47	-	-	69,447.03
Charge on Land	2,914.88	-	-	-	185.68	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,100.56
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-3,255.81	-3,255.81
Overpayments Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-41.85	-41.85
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>294,334.20</b>	<b>85,262.98</b>	<b>345,799.36</b>	<b>60,649.25</b>	<b>2,298.88</b>	<b>2,558.78</b>	<b>10,863.28</b>	<b>315,803.28</b>	<b>2,589.98</b>	<b>4,709.75</b>	<b>-3,297.66</b>	<b>470,248.50</b>
<b>Ivanhoe</b>												
General	21,282.55	5,604.63	31,928.17	-	-	648.06	925.66	17,982.99	96.83	1,715.68	-	39,297.45
Special Rate	5,569.63	1,430.13	7,691.21	-	-	109.31	242.10	4,652.81	15.49	-	-	10,155.46
Water	34,729.44	7,106.71	40,100.00	-	-	671.41	1,479.16	24,672.73	70.05	1,618.75	-	56,382.37
Water-Filtered	5,190.58	3,529.40	-	-	-	-	222.63	200.11	-	-	-	8,742.50
Garbage	16,442.07	3,829.53	34,375.00	-	-	725.01	716.69	20,687.45	17.76	1,850.00	-	32,083.07
Excess Water	113,532.85	8,284.19	-	46,847.15	15.00	85.00	1,633.60	128,724.83	0.10	-	-	41,052.86
Charge on Land	394.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	394.00
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-423.46	-423.46
Overpayments Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>197,141.12</b>	<b>29,784.59</b>	<b>114,094.38</b>	<b>46,847.15</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>2,238.79</b>	<b>5,219.84</b>	<b>196,920.92</b>	<b>200.23</b>	<b>5,184.43</b>	<b>-423.46</b>	<b>188,134.25</b>
<b>White Cliffs</b>												
General	8,215.78	2,855.54	25,205.48	-	-	282.76	348.22	17,649.00	1,704.25	1,414.18	-	15,574.83
Special Rate	718.78	182.64	2,828.55	-	-	7.77	30.86	2,076.55	101.83	-	-	1,574.68
Water	15,347.64	2,354.19	76,989.60	-	30.00	1,155.47	699.87	51,075.24	2,159.29	1,837.65	-	39,193.65
Water-Filtered	4,541.01	3,301.51	-	-	-	-	169.20	1,902.38	1,293.51	-	-	4,815.83
Excess Water	10,122.46	156.47	-	36,038.40	-	-	71.92	32,250.34	1.50	-	-	3,315.59
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-222.76	-222.76
Overpayments Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-85.84	-85.84
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>38,945.67</b>	<b>8,850.35</b>	<b>105,023.63</b>	<b>36,038.40</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>12,267.82</b>	<b>1,320.07</b>	<b>104,953.51</b>	<b>5,260.38</b>	<b>3,251.83</b>	<b>-308.60</b>	<b>64,165.98</b>
<b>Menindee (Environ)</b>												
General	35,817.53	10,757.74	74,651.16	-	415.20	1,229.52	1,536.47	51,405.02	2.56	4,358.51	-	66,182.49
Special Rate	-	-	-	-	102.50	-	-	51.26	-	-	-	51.24
Garbage	5,384.87	926.19	17,175.00	-	80.00	327.48	243.06	10,325.81	0.75	1,091.29	-	12,063.79
Charge on Land	227.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	227.00
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-158.19	-158.19
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>41,429.40</b>	<b>11,683.93</b>	<b>91,826.16</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>597.70</b>	<b>1,557.00</b>	<b>1,779.53</b>	<b>61,782.09</b>	<b>3.31</b>	<b>5,449.80</b>	<b>-158.19</b>	<b>78,366.33</b>
<b>Menindee</b>												
General	22,347.92	4,124.14	47,279.18	-	-	18.53	1,035.34	25,094.40	4.02	2,711.13	-	46,958.50
Special Rate	3,694.98	785.15	7,968.15	-	-	2.15	169.72	4,778.48	-	-	-	7,837.37
Garbage	21,095.68	2,772.70	71,600.00	-	700.00	375.72	1,102.60	34,610.70	-	4,520.76	-	57,763.80
Charge on Land	-	-	-	-	145.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	145.86
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-303.96	-303.96
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>47,138.58</b>	<b>7,681.99</b>	<b>126,847.33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>845.86</b>	<b>396.40</b>	<b>2,307.66</b>	<b>64,483.58</b>	<b>4.02</b>	<b>7,231.89</b>	<b>-303.96</b>	<b>112,401.57</b>
<b>Rural</b>												
General	28,390.35	2,087.47	302,676.69	-	-	108.35	1,249.54	191,633.27	19.50	163.69	-	142,479.24
Water	9.95	0.09	1,200.00	-	160.00	400.00	2.36	298.67	-	-	-	673.73
Excess Water	1,751.61	19.94	-	1,365.15	-	-	44.20	3,114.48	7.18	-	-	59.24
Charge on Land	500.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500.62
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-460.67	-460.67
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>30,652.53</b>	<b>2,107.50</b>	<b>303,876.69</b>	<b>1,365.15</b>	<b>160.00</b>	<b>508.35</b>	<b>1,296.10</b>	<b>195,046.42</b>	<b>26.68</b>	<b>163.69</b>	<b>-460.67</b>	<b>143,252.16</b>
<b>Sundry Villages</b>												
General	885.10	374.72	1,142.33	-	-	-	34.95	915.05	1,407.83	-	-	114.22
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>885.10</b>	<b>374.72</b>	<b>1,142.33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34.95</b>	<b>915.05</b>	<b>1,407.83</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>114.22</b>
Sunset Strip	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General	6,225.28	1,735.13	54,129.17	-	-	-	285.84	35,508.16	-	2,400.44	-	24,466.82
Garbage	251.10	9.16	3,450.00	-	-	-	13.13	2,123.66	-	146.88	-	1,452.85
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-447.30	-447.30
<b>GROUP TOTAL</b>	<b>6,476.38</b>	<b>1,744.29</b>	<b>57,579.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>298.97</b>	<b>37,631.82</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,547.32</b>	<b>-447.30</b>	<b>25,472.37</b>
<b>REPORT TOTAL</b>	<b>657,002.98</b>	<b>147,490.35</b>	<b>1,146,189.05</b>	<b>144,899.95</b>	<b>3,947.44</b>	<b>19,527.14</b>	<b>23,120.40</b>	<b>977,536.67</b>	<b>9,492.43</b>	<b>28,538.71</b>	<b>-5,399.84</b>	<b>1,082,155.38</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL RATE GROUPS</b>												
General	157,510.32	39,493.30	586,969.98	-	415.20	2,822.27	6,909.25	371,640.86	3,744.18	13,810.66	-	399,280.08
Special Rate	14,998.42	3,813.67	26,391.47	-	102.50	184.76	659.53	16,693.31	225.95	-	-	28,861.57
Water	138,096.50	33,142.75	263,409.60	-	690.00	2,631.55	5,920.40	171,452.65	3,385.06	4,900.15	-	258,889.84
Water-Filtered	19,481.08	15,491.15	-	-	-	-	795.33	3,619.78	1,559.88	-	-	30,587.90
Sewer	50,648.66	20,646.41	92,550.00	-	350.00	350.00	1,927.76	67,298.07	0.03	962.50	-	97,512.23

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Rates Collection Report be received and noted.*

*17-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett That the Rates Collection Report be received and noted.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.2 Schedule of Investments**

The following schedule of investments is provided in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993, and associated Regulations.

### Schedule of Investments - January 2005

DATE	TIME PERIOD	INTEREST RATE	DUE DATE	TOTAL (\$)
<b>11am Call Account</b>				
Commonwealth		5.20%		\$513,244.01
Westpac		5.05%		\$2,200,000.00
<b>Floating Rate Notes</b>				
Wollemi Trust	85 points over 3mth BBSW	6.28%	8-Apr-05	\$1,500,000.00
-Managed by Westpac				
<b>Commercial Bills</b>				
Commonwealth	9-Nov-04	86	5.32%	3-Feb-05
				\$300,012.36
<b>Term Deposits</b>				
L.G.F.S.	10-Jan-05	91	5.46%	11-Apr-05
	(at a margin of 15points over BBSW)			\$500,000.00
<b>Total Investments as at 31st January 2005</b>				
11 am Call Account				\$2,713,244.01
Commercial Bills and Notes				\$1,800,012.36
Term Deposits				\$500,000.00
				\$5,013,256.37

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.***

***18-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett,  
Seconded Clr Vagg that the Schedule of  
Investments report be received and adopted.***

#### ***MOTION CARRIED***

### **5.3 Review of Local Government Regulations**

The Department of Local Government has notified Councils of the Department's intention to review the existing Local Government Regulations. The main reason for the review is to consolidate the 10 existing Regulations into a single Regulation, estimated to come into force by the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2005. A Regulatory Impact Statement will be issued shortly calling for any views that a Council may wish to express.

While suggested changes to date have been only small and relatively insignificant, it is interesting to note a proposed change to alter the level of expenditure before which a tender is to be called, increasing the level from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Review of Local Government Regulations report be received and noted.***

***19-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Pease that the Review of Local Government Regulations report be received and noted.***

***MOTION CARRIED***

**5.4 Local Government Amendment (Discipline) Act 2004**

Advice has been received from the Department of Local Government that the Local Government Amendment (Discipline) Act 2004 was assented to on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2004 and commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005. The object of the amending Act is to amend arrangements regarding the discipline of Councillors, Council staff and Council delegates.

A copy of the circular to Councils, together with the Guidelines for the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils and a copy of The Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW are provided as an attachment to this Agenda.

As stated in the Circular, all Councils are required to adopt and apply the model code of conduct. The new Act also requires a Council to establish a conduct committee, which must consist of the Mayor, the General Manager and at least one independent person.

Council should consider an appropriate person who could be included on the Committee as an independent person.

Section 440 of the Local Government Act, 1993 states that a Council must adopt the Model Code of Conduct and must review this Code of Conduct within 12 months of an ordinary election. A Council may adopt its own Code of conduct, but must as a minimum, contain the provisions of the Model Code.

***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW as the Council's Code of Conduct and that Council establish a Conduct Committee comprising the Mayor, the General Manager and an independent person.***

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There was discussion about who the independent person could be, with the final decision of Council to call for expressions of interest from suitably qualified persons.

***20-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr MacMillan that Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW as the Council's Code of Conduct and that expressions of interest be requested from suitably qualified persons to be appointed as an independent person as required by Council's Code of Conduct, and that a full Council Meeting review applicants and make an appointment***

***MOTION CARRIED***

## **5.5 2004-2005 Management Plan Review – Second Quarter**

A separate report on the quarterly review of Council's Management Plan is attached to the agenda for the month. This report details progress made towards the Principal Activities as well as a comparison of budget figures.

### ***RECOMMENDATION:***

*That*

- 1. the second quarter review of the 2004/2005 Management Plan as presented be adopted.*
  - 2. the budget review for the December 2004 quarter be adopted and the estimates be varied by the amounts as stated within the report.*
- 

*21-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Wellings That*

- 1. the second quarter review of the 2004/2005 Management Plan as presented be adopted.*
- 2. the budget review for the December 2004 quarter be adopted and the estimates be varied by the amounts as stated within the report.*

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

## **5.6 Land Re-Valuations**

As Council may be aware the State Valuer General has recently re-valued all the land within the Central Darling Shire Council area. This re-valuation is conducted on a periodic basis and is required by the Land Valuation Act. While any effect on the rating structure of Council is a matter for careful analysis, extensive modelling and policy consideration, it is interesting to note the movement in land categories within the Shire.

To date the general effect has been:

Residential	
535	Negative movement -16.67% to -64.81%
696	No change
<u>570</u>	Increase from 5.49% to 400.00%
1,801	
Farmland	
2	Negative movement
27	No change
<u>265</u>	Increase from 5.49% to 126.47%
294	
Business	
70	Negative movement -50.00% to -52.38%
56	No change
<u>24</u>	Increase from 14.58% to 100.00%
150	

Council has endeavoured to take a pro-active role in this process ensuring that all ratepayers are aware of the process and are aware of their rights and obligations. Notices bringing the issue to attention have been posted in each of the townships and a form letter has been sent to all rural ratepayers.

This letter was sent in conjunction with details provided by a group of concerned rural ratepayers, who were recently formed to address the issue. The letter from Council included a letter from the concerned group, a sample objection form, a blank objection form and details provided by the Farmers Association.

Mr Ted Davies of this group will be in attendance at the February meeting of Council to address Council and answer any questions that the Council may have.

It is understood that ratepayers have until the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2005 to object to the valuation and each ratepayer is being urged to examine the issue carefully to be aware of their rights and obligations.

Further extensive modelling is required and details will be brought to Council in subsequent meetings. This issue is rather complex and will need to be reviewed carefully prior to the consideration of the rating policy. The rating policy is included with the Annual Management Plan which needs to be considered by Council in the next few months.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Land Re-valuations report be received and noted.***

---

***22-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Pease that the Land Re-valuations report be received and noted.***

#### ***MOTION CARRIED***



## 5.7 Provision of Facilities to Councillors

Further to the report to the December meeting of Council and subsequent Council resolution 23-12-04 the issue of alteration of the policy of provision of facilities to Councillors was advertised and formal submissions were requested. At the close of the public exhibition phase no submissions were received. It is now appropriate to formally resolve to alter the Council Policy and remove the provision of laptop computers, printers and associated software to Councillors. As previously stated, those computers that are currently in use by Councillors are to remain until such time as no further use can be made of them.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council formally resolve to amend the policy on the provision of facilities and payment of expenses to Councillors to exclude laptop computers, printers and associated software.***

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***23-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Arandt that Council formally resolve to amend the policy on the provision of facilities and payment of expenses to Councillors to exclude laptop computers, printers and associated software.***

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

<b>SECTION 6. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT</b>
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**RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Director of Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.*

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*24-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Director of Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.1 Activity Report December 2004 and January 2005**

Staff meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2005

**6.1.1 Staff**

Applications for Administration Officer and Labourer, Wilcannia, closed 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

**6.1.2 Administration**

**Office Tasks Outstanding**

Location	Task	Percent Complete
<b><u>Director of Engineering Services</u></b>		
Office / Shire	Enquiries, Supervision, RTA Invoices	
<b><u>Works Engineer</u></b>		
Office/Shire Works Programme	Enquiries, Supervision Document 2004/2005 Programme, including heavy patching and reseals	100 %
SR 9	Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for Paroo crossing	20 %
<b><u>Contract Administration Engineer</u></b>		
State Roads SIC	Administer	
State Roads SIC	Works Proposals submitted	9
	Works Orders received	7
	Inspection Maintenance Program – Implementation	80%
<b><u>Administration Officer</u></b>		
Office	Engineering Enquires, filing, correspondence	

**6.1.3 Training**

**Training completed**

Water Treatment Operator training completed 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January.

#### 6.1.4 Water Supplies

##### Wilcannia

Restrictions lifted 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

##### **Water meters**

Next reading 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

##### **Production bore**

Separate report.

##### Ivanhoe

Severe restrictions imposed 13<sup>th</sup> January. Separate report.

#### 6.1.5 Transport & Communication

##### General

##### State Roads - RTA Single Invitation Maintenance Contract (SIMC).

Road	Activity	Comments
SH 8	Routine maintenance (SIMC). Shoulder slashing	Ongoing. Completed
SH21	Routine maintenance (SIMC) Shoulder slashing.	Ongoing. Completed.

##### Regional Roads

Road	Activity	Comments
<b>MR67</b> Ivanhoe to Balranald	Maintenance grade	In progress
<b>MR 68B</b> Wilcannia to Menindee	Maintenance grade	Completed
<b>MR 433</b> Ivanhoe to Menindee	Replace guard rail posts Bitumen patching	3 mile Creek & Brenners Creek Sealed sections

##### Local Roads

Road	Activity	Comments
SR3 Tilpa-Tongo	Maintenance grade	25km
SR5 Wilc-Wanaaring	Maintenance grade	Peery to Shire boundary

#### 6.1.6 Aerodromes

##### Menindee

Separate report.

#### 6.1.7 Next meeting

8.30am Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2005, meeting room, Engineering Office.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted***

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*25-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded  
Clr Linnett that the Monthly Activity Report be  
received and noted*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.2 Ivanhoe Water Supply**

**Current Situation**

Due to the low level in Morrison's Lake storage, the transfer pumps to Ivanhoe lost their prime when pumping last ceased. It was feared that the remaining 1.5m of usable water could not be accessed. Jason Crighton from Hay was engaged to affect minor repairs to the pumps, assess the situation and reprime the pumps by vacuuming the suction line. Success. Pumping recommenced on 1<sup>st</sup> February. The town storage is topped up periodically, usually about monthly. With extension to the suction line, expectations are that there will be a further two pumpings from Morrison's. This would ensure supply from this source to about end of March.

**Bore Supply**

DIPNR has completed a groundwater study in the vicinity of the Morrison's pipeline and electricity supply. Indications are good quality bore water may be located but yield is uncertain. Watson's Drilling are to commence boring test holes mid February.

**Water Carting**

Plans are in place for water carting to commence from Booligal as soon as the supply from Morrison's fails. An alternative bore supply cannot be counted on at this stage

As consumption in Ivanhoe has halved since more severe restrictions were imposed, the quantity being used is still 2.7 times the amount to be subsidized by the State Government. Ministerial approval has been given for a subsidy of up to 370kl per week. This is based on 160 litres per person per day. **When water carting commences should Council supply only the quantity subsidized or the amount of reasonable demand?** Consumption may reduce even more as summer passes. Council will be responsible to pay all costs in excess of this subsidy. Should demand reduce to say twice the subsidized amount, Council's cost would be a minimum of \$5,500 or possibly up to \$8,250 per week at the current level. Can Council afford this cost for an indefinite period or afford it at all? **There is a definite need to lobby both State and Federal Members to seek further financial assistance with these costs to maintain a town water supply.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) *That the quantity of water to be carted is kept to a minimum to maintain the Ivanhoe Water Supply even though this may be in excess of the quantity subsidized.*
  - 2) *That both State and Federal Members of Parliament be lobbied to assist with water carting costs in excess of the approved subsidy.*
-

The Director of Engineering Services explained that because of the restrictions, the water consumption in Ivanhoe halved, the town now has enough water in storage for about 2 months, hopefully by that time the groundwater bore will be in operation, otherwise water will have to be carted.

It was decided by Council to defer point 1 until the March Meeting, as there is enough water in Morrison's Lake to supply the town until the end of March. Council will then have more information on the groundwater bore, and hopefully will have received a reply from the State and Federal Ministers.

*26-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett That both State and Federal Members of Parliament be lobbied to assist with water carting costs in excess of the approved subsidy.*

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

## **6.3 Information Items**

### **Wilcannia Production Bore**

The bore pump has been installed, pipeline to Water Treatment Plant laid but not satisfactorily tested, aeration tower for iron and manganese removal installed and receival tank connected. Automatic pump controls are yet to be installed. The contractor, Bevans Telecommunications, will be returning 8<sup>th</sup> February to complete outstanding items.

The pump was run 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February and treatment trialled. Satisfactory water was produced. When the system is fully operational, it is intended to periodically, say each four months, to switch to bore water to prevent deterioration of the equipment.

### **Menindee Construction**

#### **Aerodrome**

Following the Christmas break, construction has recommenced. The runway fill is complete. Shoulders, taxiway, apron, drainage and access roads are in progress.

#### **Menindee, Haberfield and Budgie Streets**

Designs have been completed for Menindee and Budgie Streets. Menindee and Haberfield Streets are to be lime stabilised and Budgie Street constructed with a geotextile seal. Work on these streets will proceed when the earthworks and drainage is completed at the aerodrome.

In order to minimise establishment costs, projects will be stabilised at the same time with one visit from the Contractor, similarly with the bitumen sealing. Estimated time for completion of all four projects is mid to late March.

### **Opal Miners Way**

Advice has been received from the Department of Lands advising there is no objection to the naming of MR435 "OPAL MINERS WAY". Signage is to be designed by RTA.

The Director of Engineering Services reported to Council that the official opening of the road would be at the end of March, early April, when the Local Member will be able to conduct the opening, and the weather should be appropriate to an outdoor celebration.

### **Darling River Bridge – Wilcannia**

#### **Security Access**

A letter has been received from Paul Smith, Area Commander, Barrier Local Area Command, expressing concern with security access to the top of the old bridge. Police have experienced a number of persons climbing to the top of the bridge and threatening self harm. Mesh and spike barriers to the overhead structure were previously removed. Now that the steel span sections of the bridge have been barricaded to pedestrians, the problem raised by the Police does not currently exist, however it will need to be addressed prior to the bridge being reopened to pedestrians.

#### **Rail level crossing - Menindee**

Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) advises it is not planning to relocate the level crossing. Bitumen seal to the crossing is incorporated in the Menindee Street reconstruction project. ARTC has also indicated the current crossing is to be reconstructed.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

#### ***For Council's Information***

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## SECTION 7. MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

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

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*27-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Manager of Environmental Services Report be received and dealt with*

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

#### **7.1 Information Items**

##### **7.1.1 Wilcannia Swimming Pool**

The Wilcannia Swimming Pool has opened for the swimming season after considerable delays were faced by Council to finalise the concrete surface of the pool and erect new amenities. The pool is open to members of the local community with high patronage levels continuing.

##### **7.1.2 Waste Management Workshops**

Waste Management Workshops will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February in the localities of Menindee, Ivanhoe and Wilcannia. Outcomes from the workshops will provide the basis to commence addressing waste management issues throughout the Shire as part of NetWaste's Western Regional Waste Management Plan. Further information will be provided to Council after completion of the plan by consultant Rob Corkery.

##### **7.1.3 Prickly Pear – Ivanhoe Regeneration Area**

It has been noted that prickly pear within the Ivanhoe Regeneration Area continues to thrive even though the plants have been infested with cochineal insects. As a further control measure, the plants will be sprayed in the coming cooler months with suitable chemicals.

##### **7.1.4 Wilcannia Community Hall**

Under the Community Solutions program, Council was required to treat acoustic problems at the Wilcannia Hall. Work has been undertaken to address acoustics and echo within the hall through attachment of acoustic panels to the ceiling. Although the treatment was not designed to lessen external noise from the hall, a vast improvement has been achieved inside the hall due to less echo and noise attenuation from inside movements and activities.

Cr MacMillan reported that the acoustics in the Hall are much improved.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

*For Council's Information*

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## 7.2 White Cliffs Hall

In November 2004, the White Cliffs Hall was found to have structural damage to its roof. Subsequent inspections found that the bottom chords of the individual trusses of four main support trusses had snapped. The building has since been inspected by a structural engineer who has indicated that the problem is severe and may be caused by inadequate design when the structure was originally built.

Whilst it is acknowledged that the hall has been there for a considerable period of time, the cause of the roof's failure does need to be addressed. Patching of the chords was initially proposed, but as correctly pointed out by the engineer, this is not a long term solution. The builder initially engaged for the repair works had requested an engineer's opinion after a closer look at the project. He felt that there were more problems than initially thought and this would appear to be the case. He is still available to carry out the works subject to a new quote once the scope of works is determined by the engineer.

The report by the engineer also suggested that there was a need to analyze the truss design and re-design the trusses to comply with current standards. A fee for this was given to Council. Both the method of repair and the cost of the design work were considered to be of a level that a second opinion should be sought. This is currently being obtained and once done, building works can commence.

It is understood that this is a matter of urgency, however it is also a matter of public safety and it is imperative that it be done properly. There is also a possibility that all or part of the design and repair works may be paid by an insurance claim and as such the methods of determining the scope of works needs to be clearly documented.

Copies of the two quotes are available for Council's information if requested.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the White Cliffs Hall report be received and noted***

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***28-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow,  
Seconded Clr Wellings that the White Cliffs Hall  
report be received and noted***

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

## 7.3 Menindee Homes for the Aged and Disabled

Council, at its December meeting resolved that urgent works be undertaken to bring the six cottages known as the Menindee Homes for the Aged and Disabled up to a safe condition (up to an amount of \$20,000.00). This work will commence in the near future. It was also determined that Council look at options for grant funding for either the upgrading or new facilities.



To date, correspondence has been forwarded to a number of agencies to ascertain the availability of grant funds but no official response has been received indicating funding is available. Verbal indications are that funding may be available however no definite indications have been forthcoming.

Further advice will be provided as information is made available.

Council has also now entered into formal tenancy agreements with each resident.

It is also noted at the November 2004 Ordinary Meeting of Council that future management of the homes needs consideration once repairs to the buildings are complete. Prior to any changes occurring to the current management scenario, it is necessary for Council to consider the existing resources in the Menindee area to undertake this role if variations are made to the current management arrangement. On this basis, it maybe a worthwhile option to consider utilising the proposed Menindee RTC to undertake this role in the future once constructed.

***RECOMMENDATION:***

***That the Menindee Homes for the Aged and Disabled Report be received and noted***

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***29-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Menindee Homes for the Aged and Disabled Report be received and noted***

***MOTION CARRIED***

It was pointed out by the Mayor that Council need to consider all the implications of Aged and Disabled Housing. The Manager of Environmental Services will bring a report to the March Meeting of Council.

***30-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Reid that the Manager of Environmental Services bring back to Council all implications of Council having aged and disabled housing***

***MOTION CARRIED***

**7.4 Food Delegations**

The NSW Food Authority has advised Council of changes to the Food Act, 2003 which may impact upon the operations of Council. In particular, changes relating to the delegation of functions under the Act to the General Manager and from the General Manager to members of staff.

Amendments to the Food Act 2003, commenced in February, 2004 and contain a number of new powers and functions including the ability to serve "Improvement Notices" and "Prohibition Orders". All NSW Councils have been designated as enforcement agencies under the Act which in turn empowers Council to serve prohibition orders and also to appoint "Authorised Officers".

Further to Council's previous resolution to delegate certain powers to the General Manager, this report outlines a number of recommendations which are specific to the operation of the Food Act, 2003. Council must adopt these recommendations to ensure that the General Manager and subsequently staff, have the power to enforce the requirements of this Act.

The purpose of these changes is to allow staff to be able to take appropriate action for breaches of the Food Act 2003 and Regulations in a timely manner, without the need to wait for a Council meeting to obtain a formal resolution of Council. The NSW Food Authority considers such delegations to be appropriate subject to the experience and expertise of the staff member to which the delegation is to be issued.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

***1. Pursuant to Section 377(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolve to delegate to the General Manager the power to appoint authorised officers under Section 114 of the Food Act 2003:***

***2. Pursuant to Section 377(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolve to delegate to the General Manager the power to serve Prohibition Orders under Section 60 of the Food Act 2003;***

***3. Pursuant to Section 378(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, and conditional upon advice from the NSW Food Authority, Council resolve to approve the General Manager to sub-delegate the power to serve Prohibition Orders under Section 60 of the Food Act 2003 to the Manager Environmental Services and the Mandatory Inspections Officer.***

***4. Pursuant to Section 381(3) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolve to approve the NSW Food Authority's delegation to the General Manager to provide written approvals for dispensations and alternative methods of compliance in regard to the Food Standards Code 3.2.2 (clauses 15 and 17) and Standard 3.2.3 (clauses 10 and 14).***

***5. Pursuant to Section 109E (3) of the Food Act 2003, and conditional upon approval from the NSW Food Authority, Council resolve to approve the General Manager to sub-delegate the power to provide written approvals for dispensations and alternative methods of compliance in regard to the Food Standard's Code Standard 3.2.2 (Clauses 15 and 17) and Standard 3.2.3 (Clauses 10 and 14) to the Manager Environmental Services and the Mandatory Inspections Officer.***

***31-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Arandt that***

- 1. Pursuant to Section 377(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolve to delegate to the General Manager the power to appoint authorised officers under Section 114 of the Food Act 2003:***
- 2. Pursuant to Section 377(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolve to delegate to the General Manager the power to serve Prohibition Orders under Section 60 of the Food Act 2003;***
- 3. Pursuant to Section 378(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, and conditional upon advice from the NSW Food Authority, Council resolve to approve the General Manager to sub-delegate the power to serve Prohibition Orders under Section 60 of the Food Act 2003 to the Manager Environmental Services and the Mandatory Inspections Officer.***
- 4. Pursuant to Section 381(3) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolve to approve the NSW Food Authority's delegation to the General Manager to provide written approvals for dispensations and alternative methods of compliance in regard to the Food Standards Code 3.2.2 (clauses 15 and 17) and Standard 3.2.3 (clauses 10 and 14).***
- 5. Pursuant to Section 109E (3) of the Food Act 2003, and conditional upon approval from the NSW Food Authority, Council resolve to approve the General Manager to sub-delegate the power to provide written approvals for dispensations and alternative methods of compliance in regard to the Food Standard's Code Standard 3.2.2 (Clauses 15 and 17) and Standard 3.2.3 (Clauses 10 and 14) to the Manager Environmental Services and the Mandatory Inspections Officer.***

***MOTION CARRIED***

## 7.5 Report on Building – Lot 6, Section 3, DP759091, 33 Reid Street, Wilcannia

Concerns have been raised with the state of this building following a number of high wind days in recent times. Whilst some effort to secure loose sheets has been carried out in the past, the building is continuing to deteriorate at an alarming rate. No inspection has been done of the rear portion of the building, but portions of the building visible from the street indicate considerable deterioration of the structure.

Evidence of past and/or present termite damage together with vandalism and general deterioration all exist. The structure is not considered to be in a sound condition and is certainly, in its present state, detrimental to the Town's streetscape as well as a potential danger to public.

This building is not listed as a heritage building under Council's Local Environmental Plan or any State register. It is doubtful that the building would meet criteria for listing in the future.

Whilst it is appreciated that the loss of any building within the Town is a significant and irreplaceable loss, Council needs to be mindful of its responsibilities to the safety of the public. It also must be considered that Council has a limited ability to maintain and restore buildings and should therefore concentrate on buildings of significance. Council can not save every building within the Shire and as such, needs to concentrate its efforts. Trying to preserve buildings of this type should be placed in perspective and where no potential for reuse and or funding opportunities are not evident, then hard decisions are required. Accordingly it is recommended that a Notice of Intent be issued on the owner of this building stating Council's intent to Serve an Order to Demolish the structure. The owner has a right to object to the proposed order and in this case a further report would be presented to Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council prepare and issue a Notice of intent under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act to issue an Order to Demolish the building situated at Lot 6, Section 3, DP759091, address is 33 Reid Street, Wilcannia.***

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***32-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Brown that Council prepare and issue a Notice of intent under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act to issue an Order to Demolish the building situated at Lot 6, Section 3, DP759091, address is 33 Reid Street, Wilcannia.***

### **MOTION CARRIED**

## 7.6 Transmission Licences

Council has been informed by the Australian Broadcasting Authority that current licences held by Council for television transmission privileges have lapsed and require renewal. Council

currently maintain and operate various transmission apparatus within the Shire. It has been noted that the apparatus licence in the broadcasting services bands at Ivanhoe and Menindee require renewing. This allows Council to broadcast television stations of Imparja and Seven Central. The expired licences pertain to existing television translators for Imparja only, Council's licence for Seven Central is still valid. To enable the licence application for Imparja to be submitted to the Australia Broadcasting Authority it is necessary for the Council seal and relevant signatures to be placed on the document. It is also recommended that the licence period be for five years and the relevant fee of \$143 be attached to the application

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Council seal and relevant signatures be placed on the applications for apparatus licence in broadcasting service bands at Ivanhoe and Menindee for existing Imparja television translators.*

*That the licence period be for five years and the relevant fee of \$143 be attached to the application when submitted.*

---

**33-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Council seal and relevant signatures be placed on the applications for apparatus licence in broadcasting service bands at Ivanhoe and Menindee for existing Imparja television translators.**

*That the licence period be for five years and the relevant fee of \$143 be attached to the application when submitted.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

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*The Meeting adjourned at 12:57pm. At 1:50pm the meeting viewed an ABC 7:30 report on Wilcannia and the Darling River.*

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*The meeting resumed at 1:59pm*

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## SECTION 8. MANAGER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

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

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***34-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Arandt that the Manager of Community Development's report be received and dealt with***

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

#### **8.1 Menindee CTC Inc.**

Due to the Menindee CTC Committee not meeting, no decision has been made to accept or decline Council's offer of funding a financial audit.

As closure of this facility is imminent, arrangements are being made to continue the essential services such as bookings on the Menindee to Broken Hill Health Related Transport Service.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the Menindee CTC Inc report be received and noted.***

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The Menindee Councillors showed concern that Council were not being given credit with trying to assist this centre to stay open. It was suggested that an article be written to the Menindee School Newsletter explaining to residents how Council tried to assist the centre, and also letting residents know Council's intentions of the Rural Transaction Centre to take on this role. There will also be interim arrangements made.

***35-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Vagg That the Menindee CTC Inc report be received and noted.***

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

#### **8.2 Information Items**

##### **8.2.1 Youth Week**

National Youth Week 2005 will be held from 9<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April. Funds have been made available to Councils, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, for Youth Week activities and events. The level of funding being made available is dependent upon the number of young people in the local government area.

An event and activities plan for Central Darling Shire is being arranged through the Wilcannia Telecentre Coordinator in conjunction with schools in Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Menindee and Ivanhoe.

### **8.2.2 Seniors Week**

Seniors Week is to be held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2005. The Manager of Community Development will liaise with organisations to celebrate this event.

### **8.2.3 Australia Day in White Cliffs**

White Cliffs were honoured to host Australia Day Ambassador, Warren Potent for their Australia Day celebrations. Warren has represented Australia at two Olympics and is currently ranked number one in Australia for small bore target shooting.

The day was a great success with festivities beginning with a tagged fishing tournament at Pear Tank. Free entry to the swimming pool and complimentary sausage sizzle was held over lunch.

Diana Hoffman welcomed the Mayor, Peter Sullivan at the flag raising ceremony at Federation Park. Peter then formally introduced Warren Potent to the community. The community, visitors and special guests were treated to a street party in front of the White Cliffs Hotel which included dinner courtesy of the White Cliffs Community Association.

A great day was had by all with the Australia Day Ambassador, Warren Potent thoroughly enjoying his trip to outback NSW

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***For Council's Information***

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## SECTION 9. RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Correspondence for Council Information be received and noted*

*36-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett,  
Seconded Clr Wellings that the Correspondence  
for Council Information be received and noted*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **9.1 Media Releases**

Date	Sender	Contents
7/2/2005	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Groups encouraged to apply for Envirofund Grants
7/2/2005	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Information seminar to assist Employers attract skilled Migrants
3/2/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Mr Windsor's allegations -
1/2/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Statement by John Anderson Tourism Conference faces up to squeeze on infrastructure
31/1/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Labor is still failing to take Transport seriously
31/1/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Farmers rally yo help our neighbours in Aceh
26/1/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Australia Day 2005
25/1/2005	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Australia mourns the passing of Opera great
20/1/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Anderson slams PETA boycott of Benetton
1/18/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	New code of conduct promises freash start for fruit and vegetable wholesalers
18/1/2005	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Code of Conduct for Fruit and Vegetable Wholesale to provide certainty and transparency
18/1/2005	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Mr Latham's resignation
16/1/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	National day of mourning for Tsunami victims
14/1/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Councils voice strong objections to proposed 70% price increase for street lighting
14/1/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	\$4.7million in natural disaster funding for NSW
14/1/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Natural disaster funding for two far west projects
10/1/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Disaster protection funding for Western NSW
7/1/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Local Government role in Tsunami relief messages
4/1/2005	The Hon Jim Lloyd MP - Federal	New Safety Action Plans takes



Date	Sender	Contents
22/12/2004	Minister for Local Government Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	effect Working Party will overhaul Local Government Practices
21/12/2004	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Newresources help teach Australia day in schools in the Parkes Electorate
16/12/2004 15/12/2004	John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P. John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P.	Airservices Australia Joint Media Release re Protecting Lives on our roads with better Driver Education

## 9.2 Circulars

Sender	Date	Contents
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	4/2/2005	Local Government Weekly 05/05
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	28/1/2005	Local Government Weekly 04/05
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	20/1/2005	05/03 - Professional Development opportunity - Training in Korea program
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	17/1/2005	Council Claims for payment of pensioner concession subsidies - Febuary 2005
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	17/1/2005	05/01 - Naming and numbering of roads by councils - impact on the NSW companion animals register
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	14/1/2005	Local Government Weekly 02/05
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	7/1/2005	Local Government Weekly 01/05
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	23/12/2004	04/62 - Review of local government regulations
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	23/12/2004	04/63 - Enhanced Standards of behaviour by Council Officials - Amendment to the local government act 1993 by the local government amendment (discipline) act 2004
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	22/12/2004	04/61 - Asbestos Policies for Local government
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	22/12/2004	04/60 - Policy on payment expenses and provision of facilities to the mayor, deputy mayor and other councillors.
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	15/12/2004	04/58 - Water Safety Issues

## 9.3 Letters

Date	File No	Sender	Regarding
24/1/2005	073-03 -1/37P	Sunset Strip Progress Association	Thanking Council for the \$200 donation towards Australia Day Celebrations
11/1/2005	051-06 -2/43P	The Hon Jim Lloyd MP - Federal Minister for Local Government	Notification of \$8,325 grant for Emergency Risk Management

Date	File No	Sender	Regarding
16/12/2004	073-03 -1/34P	Health Department, NSW	Thanking GM for presentation to NSW Rural Health Taskforce on 11th November 2004
9/24/2004	073-03 -1/35P	Elliott, Bill and Chris	Thanking Council for cleaning up the Council block beside NPWS in Wilcannia
8/17/2004	073-03 -1/36P	St Therese's Community School	Thanking Council for the condition of the road to Ivanhoe allowing for a smooth drive in the school buses

## **SECTION 10. THE RECEPTION OF REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

### **10.1 Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee Meeting**

**Minutes of the Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee held at the Shire Depot Wilcannia, commencing at 10.05am on Wednesday 22 December 2004.**

**Present:** Rod Dillon, Robert Vagg, Michael Williams, Russell Bow, Trevor Jones and Ruth Close.

**Apologies:** Peter Sullivan and Bill O'Brien

**Confirmation of Minutes:** Held 1 September 2004.  
The Minutes of the September Meeting were accepted.  
*Moved Trevor Jones & Seconded Mick Williams*

#### **Business Arising from Previous Meeting:**

- Contact List to be updated by Kristy Karkoe. Discussion was held as to who was to be included in the list of contacts and who was to receive distribution, Kristy will be informed by members who are on the Engineering staff.

#### **Training Completed Since Last Meeting:**

- Traffic Controller Training was completed by the appropriate staff.
- A Manual Handling Course was attended by all Outdoor and Engineering Staff.

#### **Safety Videos:**

It was decided by the Committee that the videos that have been purchased previously need to be viewed before any further tapes be obtained. There did not seem to be any new information in the offered material that had not been viewed by members in other tapes. The three videos offered by Vocam were returned by Registered Mail on the same day.

#### **Workplace Safety Check Lists:**

The Committee was impressed by the lists formulated by Tim Hazell for use by nominated inspectors. It will probably be necessary to create check lists specifically for water filtration plants and swimming pools. The Safety Officer, Mick Williams will work on these and perform the inspections. It was thought that the inspections should also be attended and include the opinion of a member of staff who is not associated with the facility.

#### **Emergency Service Warning Signs:**

Mick Williams has been investigating the installation of compulsory warning signs. These signs are to be displayed at the gate of each depot, water filtration plant and swimming pool and also at the storage location of the hazardous material. This is being researched with the assistance of Broken Hill Mining Equipment who will supply them. The Safety Officer is currently drawing up lists of all hazardous materials at each site.

**General Business:**

- The Safety Officer is continuing to research the options of air extraction devices at the Wilcannia and Ivanhoe Water Filtration Plants. This modification is necessary because of the toxic chemicals that escape during the dosing of the water systems. It has been raised by some manufacturers of these devices that the extracted air may need filtering before reentering the atmosphere. This issue is still being investigated.
- The Secretary of the OH&S Committee announced her resignation from the position because she is leaving Central Darling Shire Council before their next meeting. After Ruth Close vacates this position it will be necessary to call for nominations for an office staff representative.

**Next Meeting:**

- Tuesday 1 March 2005.

**Meeting Closed at 11.15am**

*RECOMMENDATION*

*That the Minutes of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee be received and noted.*

***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the CDSC Occupational Health and Safety Committee***

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***37-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded Clr MacMillan that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the CDSC Occupational Health and Safety Committee***

***MOTION CARRIED***

## SECTION 11. DELEGATES REPORTS

### *RECOMMENDATION*

*That the Delegates Reports be received and noted*

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**38-2-05** *Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Delegates Reports be received and noted*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **11.1 Cr Moya Reid**

##### **11.1.1 Sunset Strip Progress Association**

Cr Reid attended a meeting of the above association. 2 letters were tabled, the resignation of both the Secretary and the Treasurer. There will be a meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2005, a full report will be given to Council after the meeting.

Kathy Reid  
54 Lakeview Drive  
Sunset Strip  
New South Wales 2879

Tuesday 4 January 2005

To all Progress Member of Sunset Strip

I am no longer interested in holding the position of Treasurer with the Sunset Strip Progress Association; I have a number of reasons for this decision but the main reason is that I am fed up with all the lies, gossip and bullshit that some community members have gone to extreme lengths to get their own way and satisfaction.

We all live in a small community but we still have to abide by the laws and regulations set down by all government bodies and local shires.

My partner and I came to Sunset Strip for a stress free life style and we do not need this in our life.

So please except this as my resignation.

Yours truly,



Kathy Reid

PO BOX 33 Sunset Strip  
Via Menindee  
NSW 2879  
80914912

5th January 2005

Dear Progress Members,

During the past few month the Progress Association of Sunset Strip has taken on a role that I am not comfortable to engage in. There seems to be little regard for the betterment of the community . Recent meeting are focused on individual needs, likes and dislikes with little or no regard for any one else in the community. Certain individuals are singled out and complained about in regard to how they live, drive or any other personal details. A young couple have been the most recent target as they speed along the street. This couple are not the only ones who speed along the street why single out individuals. Names should not be mentioned in meetings. Instead of seeking ways to improve our area the most recent meetings are full of complaints about other inhabitants based on gossip.

The October meeting where a member yelled abuse with remarks gained from idle gossip has divided this community to levels that can no longer be repaired with the present focus of this committee. The gossip, liars and personal insult from that meeting has torn the heart out of my feelings for this community. While I am happy to call Sunset Strip my home, my heart is no longer in this position. I therefore present this letter as my resignation as Secretary of the Progress Association.

I would like to thank John for his assistance as his knowledge of the area and political experience is invaluable to this group.

Your Sincerely



Kerry Tonkin

### 11.1.2 Menindee Swimming Pool Committee

Cr Reid had a discussion with Mr Adam Forrester regarding the Menindee Swimming Pool. The community are having trouble getting volunteers to open the pool.

The General Manager stated that this is a matter that needs to be addressed before the pools open next summer.

It was suggested that a motion be put to the Western Division Conference that covers the issue of Bronze Medallion qualification for Pool Supervisors.

## **11.2 Cr Clive Linnett**

### **11.2.1 Wentworth/Balranald Counselling Service**

Cr Linnett tabled a letter received regarding the Wentworth/Balranald Counselling Service.



## Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Mr Clive Linnett  
Chairman  
Wentworth/ Balranald Farm Fightback Committee Inc  
Kilfera Station  
IVANHOE NSW 2878

14 JAN 2005

Dear Mr Linnett

I am writing to advise you of short-term arrangements to be implemented for the Agriculture – Advancing Australia (AAA) Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) programme, post 30 June 2005.

As you are aware, an independent Review of the RFCS Programme has been conducted over the past four months and I have recently received the Review Committee's final Report. The Australian Government will now consider the Committee's Report and future arrangements for the programme.

As we are now in the second half of this financial year, I have decided to extend the current programme arrangements for a further six months, to 31 December 2005, in order to allow sufficient time for consideration of the Review. This extension will provide a degree of certainty for Management Committees that there will be an appropriate timeframe for implementation of the RFCS future programme arrangements and will also ensure the continued delivery of rural financial counselling assistance to clients.

To assist you with the programme extension arrangements, officers from the RFCS programme in my Department will provide further details to you in the near future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and all volunteer Management Committee members for your contribution and commitment to the Rural Financial Counselling Service Programme. I also would like to thank the Rural Financial Counsellors for the financial counselling assistance they have provided to rural clients who are experiencing stress and hardship due to financial difficulties.

---

Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Ph: 02 6277 5814 Fax: 02 6277 5823



I look forward to working with you to ensure the provision of a worthwhile and effective financial counselling service to rural producers in difficult financial circumstances across the country.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Colbeck".

Richard Colbeck

## SECTION 12. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

### Cr Linnett

Asked where the Cobb Highway finishes.

The Director of Engineering Services said it finishes at the T junction of the Barrier Highway.

### Cr Longfellow

Asked what is happening with the Mt Manara deviation.

The Director of Engineering Services said there is a meeting to take place shortly. The RTA have allocated some funds for this financial year for the survey and design, and they have allocated \$1m for next financial year to complete the project.

Cr Longfellow also queried the expressions of interest that were sent out for the collection of rates in Ivanhoe, White Cliffs and Menindee.

The General Manager said it was unfortunate the way that was conducted, and steps have been taken to correct future actions.

### Cr Pease

Asked about the unwell Morton Bay Fig tree out the front of the Hospital.

The General Manager said Maari Ma Health are aware of Council's support, they have organised for a tree doctor to inspect the tree.

### Cr Brown

Asked if a list of all committees that the General Manager represents Council on be made available.

The Mayor explained that each year Council appoint delegates to all Committees. This list is available in the Statutory Meeting Minutes, in 2004 this was held in April.

The General Manager explained that he has been appointed by the Committees themselves in the case of some Committees, e.g. Outback Regional Consultative Committee, Wilcannia Community Working Party where he reports on the activities of Council. He is an observer only on the far West Regional Development Board, but still reports to that Board on Council activities.

Cr Brown also asked why he was not notified of the Liquor Accord Meetings held recently.

The General Manager explained that the Accord have decided that Businesses, the Police and Council are all that are required for the Liquor Accord, as they are currently setting Liquor outlet hours and regulations required. Another group will be set up which involves the Community. The General Manager and Manager of Community Development attend on behalf of Council.

The General Manager has suggested that he supply the meeting co-ordinator's details to Councillor Brown and he can request an invitation directly from the Premier's department.

### Cr Arandt

Asked about the availability of water for the Menindee Cemetery.

The Manager of Environmental Services advised Council that the Plaques Project is progressing well, there will be a presentation on 7<sup>th</sup> May. The Manager of Environmental Services will follow up the water matter.

**Cr Reid**

Asked if something could be done to bring a 5c deposit on drink bottles and cans.

The Mayor explained that in South Australia they pay 5c deposit which is refundable. NSW are not interested in bringing in such a scheme.

**Cr MacMillan**

Asked what the pre-season plans are for the Wilcannia football oval.

The Director of Engineering Services said routine maintenance will take place. It would be appreciated if the Club could notify Council when the oval will be required with more than 1 days notice. Maybe a list of dates at the start of the season, with a minimum of 1 weeks notice.

Cr MacMillan also asked about the toilets on the oval.

The General Manager said the teams are encouraged to use the public toilets on the side of the road, but portable toilets could be investigated for all our towns.

Cr MacMillan also asked what is being done with the footpaths around the Club Hotel.

The Director of Engineering Services said emergency works will be undertaken ensure the footpath is safe.

**Cr Longfellow**

Asked what is happening about the block of land in Ivanhoe for the SES building?

The General Manager said it is at the conveyancing stage now, it won't be long before finalisation.

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

**SECTION 14. URGENT BUSINESS**

Any other matter which the mayor may allow to be brought forward

## SECTION 15. CONFIDENTIAL MEETING

*39-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Longfellow that Council form into a Committee of Council comprising the whole of the Council and all staff members present according to the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A (2) (a) in order to discuss personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)*

***MOTION CARRIED***

*40-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Pease that the Council Meeting revert back to Ordinary Status*

***MOTION CARRIED***

*41-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Wellings that all resolutions passed during the Confidential Meeting be brought into the Ordinary Meeting*

***MOTION CARRIED***

The following is the Resolution passed during the Confidential Meeting.

*42-2-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr MacMillan that Council's representative on the Wilcannia Community Working Party support the increase of Community representation on the Wilcannia Community Working Party.*

***MOTION CARRIED***

**SECTION 16. FIXING DATES AND VENUES FOR NEXT MEETING**

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*There will be a Workshop on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March commencing at 2:00pm in order to discuss the Principal Activities of the 2005-2006 Management Plan.*

*The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2005 at the Tilpa Community Hall commencing at 9:30am*

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*There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 3:35pm*

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