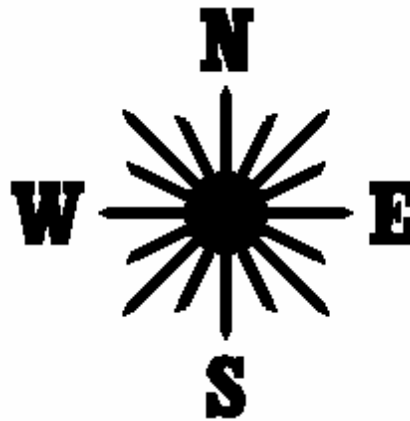


Mission Statement

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

CENTRAL DARLING



SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 19th April 2005

at

Menindee

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, Menindee on Tuesday 19th April 2005 commencing at 9:40 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

Moya Reid

Rick Doyle

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 Suzie Fisher

Councillor Mike Arandt

RECOMMENDATION

That the apologies be received and noted

***1-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded
Clr Wellings 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

2-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Wellings that the minutes of the previous meeting be received

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted

3-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted

MOTION CARRIED

2.1 Business Arising out of Minutes

2.2 Notices of Motion/Rescission

SECTION 3. MAYORAL MINUTE OR REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Report be received and noted

***4-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow,
Seconded Clr Pease that the Mayoral Report be
received and noted***

MOTION CARRIED


The Mayor reported on his activities since the March Council Meeting.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service Advisory Committee conducted a 2 day meeting in Menindee which the Mayor attended. The Mayor commended Cr Mike Arandt for his input and assistance with regard to the Menindee Lakes Regulatory Area.

The Barwon Darling Alliance meeting in Dubbo was attended with the General Manager. The Economic Zone name has been changed to the Socio-Economic Zone, and this has taken over from the Credit Union as the Alliance's number one priority. The Alliance has been told that if there is nothing concrete by the end of June, Council will look elsewhere for banking services. \$1m has been released by the Commonwealth for air conditioning to Aboriginal Housing as the State Government could not assist. There will need to be a change to the Constitution as Murdi Paaki will need to be written out of the Alliance after 30th June 2005 and replaced with whatever takes Murdi Paaki's place.

NSW government will not be handing out any more subsidised carting of stock at the end of this month.

The Mayor mentioned the letter received from the Royal Flying Doctor giving credit to the Engineering Department which is attached below.

S-6-1/6P 



ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

OF AUSTRALIA

*South Eastern Section
Victorian Operations*

ABN 86 000 032 422

JOINT PATRONS:

*Her Excellency
Professor Marie Bashir AC
Governor of
New South Wales and
Sir Nicholas Shehadre AC, OBE*

30th March 2005

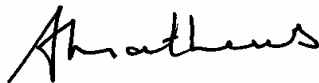
Mayor P Sullivan,
Central Darling Shire,
P.O Box 165,
WILCANNIA NSW 2836

Dear Peter,

I would like to just say thankyou to the Central Darling Shire for the initiative you have taken to upgrade the Menindee Airport. Aviation is a great benefit to our outback communities and this upgrade has given the RFDS greater access when we are needed in Mendindee.

Would you also pass on our sincere thanks to the Council Engineering department for the time and effort they have put in to ensure the upgrade is a high quality project.

Yours sincerely,



Tony Mathews
Aviation Manager.

Essendon Base, Hangar 91, Cnr Nomad Road & Bristol Street, Essendon Airport, VIC 3041. Telephone (03) 9299 5350, Facsimile (03) 9379 3222.

SECTION 4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

5-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr MacMillan that the General Manager's report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

4.1 Administration Matters

Contract negotiations are continuing between the General Manager and the Director of Corporate Services.

In accordance with Section 10 (A) 2 of the Local Government Act 1993 it is recommended this matter be discussed and resolved in a Confidential Section of the meeting.

The Contract of Employment attached to the Director of Corporate Services, Tim Hazell expires on the 26th June 2005.

RECOMMENDATION

That in accordance with Section 10 (A) 2 of the Local government Act 1993 the Director of Corporate Services Employment Contract negotiations be considered in the Confidential section of the meeting.

6-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Linnett that in accordance with Section 10 (A) 2 of the Local government Act 1993 the Director of Corporate Services Employment Contract negotiations be considered in the Confidential section of the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 Information Items

4.2.1 Ivanhoe Correctional Centre

Council have been advised that a new Governor has been appointed to the Ivanhoe Warakirri Correctional Centre. Governor Dave White is also the Governor of the Broken Hill Correctional Centre.

The Governor and the Deputy Governor Ms Tracy Mannix have been invited to address Council at approximately 12:30 pm, and will join Council for lunch.

4.2.2 Knox & Downs Building – Wilcannia

Further correspondence has been exchanged between Council and the Director of Public Prosecutions, Nicholas Cowdery QC in relation to progress in the determination of criminal proceedings in the case of the Knox & Downs Building in Wilcannia. The Director has informed Council he is unaware of any further developments and will investigate with the Dubbo office as to progress.

4.2.3 Outback Area Consultative Committee

The Outback Area Consultative Committee is an organisation formed to monitor and assess development and other community projects and programs funded and supported by the Federal Government's Department of Transport and Regional Services. Specifically the appointed Committee assess and provide recommendations to the Department on submissions prepared under the **Regional Partnerships Program**. It is further considered that the Outback area Consultative Committee will also advise and play a major role in the assessment process of the about to be launched Federal Government's **Sustainable Regions** program. Under this program twenty one million dollars will be made available in a defined region spanning an area from southern Queensland and taking in much of the Western Division of NSW (but not all). Full details of this program are yet to be released.

Council is currently represented by the General Manager. Until recently, ex Councillor John Brennan was also a member, John has subsequently resigned. Council has maintained a pro-active position as a member of the Outback Area Consultative Committee and Central Darling Shire has received support for a number of projects that have benefited its communities. The opportunity currently exists and Council has been invited to appoint a further representative from Central Darling Shire Council.

7-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr MacMillan that Council appoint the Manager of Community Development to the Outback Area Consultative Committee

MOTION CARRIED

4.2.4 Far West Regional Development Board

At the invitation of the Director General, of the NSW Department of State & Regional Development the General Manager attended a briefing meeting with the Director General of Regional Development, Loftus Harris and the Executive Director, Michael Cullen which was followed by dinner at Broken Hill on the 5th April 2005.

Others attending included:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Guy Chick | Regional Manager - Country Energy. |
| Barry Mitchell | General Manager - Perilya Broken Hill Ltd. |
| Sharon Hocking | Chair - Broken Hill Chamber of Commerce |
| Neville Gasmier | Chair - Far West Regional Development Board |
| Dallas Robins | Vice Chair - Far West Regional Development Board |

The meeting provided the opportunity to raise issues in relation to regional economic development and the impediments to growth. Principal topics brought to the attention of the Director General were the current water issues at White Cliffs and the basic lack of support currently available for the establishment of small business in the region. The 'case study' on the establishment of the mechanical workshop at Wilcannia by Brian Cox was used as an example.

4.2.5 Roads to Recovery – Regional Road Project Fund

The Federal Government Department of Transport & Regional Services announced an extension of the Roads to Recovery program and allocated a further \$150 million for region-based roads projects which would be available to Local Governments to competitively apply for.

Advice has been received that indicates that the fund has already committed 18 projects through the program at a total cost of about \$93 million. Further, a total of \$30 million has been allocated for the Unincorporated Areas of Australia.

Council has not received any details as to how these grants can be applied for the remainder of the program funds. Effectively there is only \$26 million remaining in the program budget.

The current Roads to Recovery program allows for \$300 million a year for a four year period and is directed to individual Councils under more or less the same distribution system that has operated under the original Roads to recovery program.

Progress in sealing the Menindee – Pooncarie Road is very dependant on the Roads to Recovery – Region Based Roads Project Fund and it is disturbing to hear that apart from not having received any details of the program, a considerable amount of the funding has already been allocated.

4.2.6 Wilcannia Safer Community Compact – NSW Attorney Generals Department.

As Council has previously been advised, an application was prepared and submitted to the NSW Attorney General's Department in November 2004 for consideration for Wilcannia to be considered under the Safer Community Compact program. The program attracts funding assistance in the order of \$50,000 to target juvenile crime. A range of programs were considered and approved by the Wilcannia Crime Prevention Committee and later adopted by Council and the Wilcannia Community Working Party for consideration under this program.

Council has recently been advised that the program had been suspended as a result of internal movements within the Department but is now back on course. Latest advice suggests that all applications will be assessed in the very near future, possibly late April 2005.

4.3 Councillor Expenses

Council is advised that the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Tony Kelly MLC and the Local Government & Shires Association are working together to draw up guidelines for setting reasonable expenses for Councillors.

The Association strongly advocated that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal was not the appropriate body to resolve this issue. The Minister however indicated that he preferred that Council's policies were approved by the Tribunal.

It is timely that Council review its Councillor Expense policies, however it is recommended that Council postpone formulating any new policies until this issue has been resolved and guidelines agreed. The Association will also review the issue of how expenses are reported.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Information items be received and noted.

8-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Doyle that the Information items be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

4.4 Local Government & Shires Association Conference 2005

Registrations are now being invited for the 2005 Annual Shires Association Conference. The conference will take place from the 6th – 8th June at the Sofitel Wentworth Hotel, Sydney. This year's theme is "**Where to from here**" The aim of this year's conference is to move forward in a new direction. State Ministers with new portfolios have been invited to talk about how they plan to work with Local Government. There will also be a forum on the new disciplinary code of conduct, image management and remuneration.

4.4.1 Delegations

Correspondence has been received from the Member for Murray Darling Peter Black OAM MP offering assistance with arranging deputations with various State Government Ministers during the period of the Local government & Shires Association Conference being held from the 6th – 8th June 2005 or the period leading up to or after the conference is over.

Information regarding the Minister and Portfolio along with the issues to be raised should be provided by the 29th April 2005 for arrangements to be put in place.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council' nominates delegates to attend the 2005 Annual Conference of the NSW Shires Association.

That Council decide on the topics to be addressed and delegations to NSW State Ministers and informs the Member for Murray Darling Peter Black OAM, MP accordingly.

It was decided to defer the selection of delegates to later in the meeting.

9-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Brown That Council decide on the topics to be addressed and delegations to NSW State Ministers and informs the Member for

*Murray Darling Peter Black OAM, MP
accordingly.*

MOTION CARRIED

4.5 Ivanhoe Community Action Plan

Background

As part of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) trial, during 2004, the Murdi Paaki Regional Council commissioned the sixteen Community Working Parties within the region to engage consultants to prepare a Community Plan. Within Central Darling Shire these “plans” are in various stages of completion. The Ivanhoe Community Plan has been completed and adopted by the Ivanhoe Community Working Party and is currently at the implementation stage.

Current

The General Manager attended a Community Working Party meeting at Ivanhoe on the 23rd March 2005 at which the plan was discussed.

A number of recommendations are contained in the plan that impact on or could involve Council. It was recommended that these be presented to Council for consideration as part of Council’s 2005 – 2006 Management Planning process.

Ivanhoe Community Action Plan

- Improve the green space and tree cover throughout the town including the further beautification of the town area.
- Impose traffic control measures to limit vehicle movement across open ground in the vicinity of houses.
- Landscape bare and loose area adjacent to houses and in house yards to bind surface by planting out?
- Reduce the incidence of local flooding in streets and house yards by carrying out a drainage study and implementing any findings.
- Ensure the frontage of every house is serviced by kerb and guttering.
- Improve the level of street lighting so that the route on foot from any house in town to any other is illuminated for the entire distance.
- Provide adequate playground at the sports oval.
- Negotiate with Central Darling Shire Council for increased employment for Aboriginal people in Ivanhoe, on a permanent basis, as skills transfer and/or as job readiness experience.
- Encourage increased participation by local government in actively supporting and coordinating local initiatives.

The Ivanhoe Community Working Party is pro-active and is working in partnership with other Government Agencies as part of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) trial being conducted in the Murdi Paaki region. The production of a Community Plan is a key element in the trial. The "plan" should focus on the priorities identified in the town and recognise the responsible agency under a shared responsibility with the community. I commend the Ivanhoe Community Plan to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Ivanhoe Community Working Party Community Plan report be received and noted. That recommendations contained within the Ivanhoe Community Action Plan 2004 be considered by Council for inclusion in Council's 2005 – 2006 Management Plan.

10-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Ivanhoe Community Working Party Community Plan report be received and noted. That recommendations contained within the Ivanhoe Community Action Plan 2004 be considered by Council for inclusion in Council's 2005 / 2006 Management Plan.

MOTION CARRIED

4.6 West Darling Arts incorporated

Membership of the Board of West Darling Arts Incorporated comprises two representatives of Wentworth, Central Darling and Broken Hill City Councils. In addition there are three community representatives (artists, education, and tourism), one Indigenous representative and provision for two representatives from the Unincorporated Area. The current Chairman is Central Darling Shire Council, General Manager, Bill O'Brien.

West Darling Arts are funded by Regional Arts New South Wales and contributions from member Councils and Corporate sponsorship.

Business of the Regional Arts Board

- Development of an arts policy for the region.
- Overseeing the development of a Regional Arts Program in line with this policy.
- Advocacy for the work of the Regional Arts Development Officer, Regional Arts Program and arts development in the region.
- Contribution to state based policy for regional arts development through membership of Regional Arts NSW Board.
- Review and evaluation of regional arts policies and programs.

The principal business and key objectives are included in West Darling Arts 2003 strategic Plan.

In line with the Boards objective to encourage and assist active participation of the communities of the region in art and cultural activities relevant to their lives and circumstances the Board agreed to act as an auspice for the 2004 RE-GEN Festival which took place in Broken Hill from the 13th – 24th April 2004. Various venues were used including the Memorial Oval and the Entertainment Centre. The Festival included Art Exhibitions, Workshops, Public Installations and a Short Story Writers Festival culminating in a Weekend Extreme featuring national bands on four stages and Planet X, an extreme motorcycle display.

The Festival featured an ambitious arts based program and relied heavily on admittance fees to certain events. The Festival was well organised and apart from the lower than expected numbers attending the Weekend Extreme, most events were very well patronised. Attached is the Business Plan prepared for the event that clearly outlines the background and overall objectives.

The overall operating budget was \$154,000.00. Unfortunately based on actual receipts received and expenditure occurred, the Festival suffered a substantial financial loss of around \$22,000.00. It appears artistic direction may have taken precedence over any possible short fall in attendances and no fall back plan was in place. Notwithstanding, it should be highlighted that although the attendance was down on expectation at the Extreme Weekend with around 2000 attending the event, this number still represents a large proportion of the youth of Broken Hill being the target audience.

The Board of West Darling Arts Inc. as the auspice body has taken the responsibility for this shortfall in funds and is endeavouring to work through various means to acquit this debt. It should be stated this matter has had a profound effect on the operations of West Darling Arts Inc core business and has taken considerable energy and resources form delivering its proposed arts programs.

In order to provide a solution to the immediate matter of discharging the outstanding debt without having serious effect on the overall operations the Board resolved to approach the member Council's and request that each Council provides \$7,500 being the 2006 – 2007 membership subscriptions in advance or to be treated as an interest free loan.

Programs & Projects of West Darling Arts.

- Wilcannia Arts has received a \$3,000 grant under the 2005 Country Arts support Program.
- Assistance with the preparation and development of Council's Cultural Plan.
- Barka Dreaming Art Camp (Menindee)
- The Big Screen Touring Australian Films (Wilcannia & Menindee)

Membership and an active participation in West Darling Arts is vital in providing many people both residents of Shire townships and those on rural properties to be involved in the arts.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support West Darling Arts Incorporated and contribute in advance a membership subscription for the 2006 2007 financial year.

11-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Pease That Council support West Darling Arts Incorporated and contribute in advance a membership subscription for the 2006/2007 financial year, conditional on other Member Councils' participation.

MOTION CARRIED

4.7 Murray Darling Association

During 2004 the Murray Darling Basin Commission released its *Native Fish Strategy*, a 50 year plan to bring native fish back to the Murray Darling Basin Rivers. The strategy aims to increase native fish populations back to 60 percent of their pre-European levels.

The strategy is a partnership between Governments and the Basin's communities and will involve improving fish habitat, controlling pest fish, improving water quality, building fishways and responsible fishing.

During May 2005 a group of community people and scientists associated with the *Native Fish Strategy* will be travelling down the Darling to meet with Councils, schools and community groups about the *Native Fish Strategy*.

The itinerary is as follows:

- **Tilpa 18th May 2005 (Overnight Killara Station))**
- **Wilcannia 19th May 2005 (Arrive 11.30am – 2.00PM)**
- **Menindee 19th May 2005 (Evening Community BBQ)**

The Chair of the Community Stakeholder Group is Mr Adrian Wells from the Murray Darling Association. Adrian will accompany the group who are keen to hear from local communities about their views on native fish and carp and how to improve the river system to encourage native fish.

It is recommended that Council supports this visit and encourages community participation in discussions

RECOMMENDATION

That Council supports the visit by the group associated with the Native Fish Strategy and encourages community participations in discussions.

12-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council supports the visit by the group associated with the Native Fish

Strategy and encourages community participations in discussions.

MOTION CARRIED

The Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am and resumed at 11:15 am

4.8 New South Wales Rural Fire Service

4.8.1 Staff Consolidation – Appointments

The NSW Rural Fire Service have undertaken a staff consolidation project over the past 2 – 3 years. The objective of this action was to bring the Rural Fire Districts of Cobar, Central Darling and the Un-incorporated Zone together under one team.

The Team Manager has been appointed in accordance with public sector guidelines and he is responsible for the management of the four Rural Fire Districts and is accountable accordingly. However, there is a currently a gap in terms of the Team Manager carrying out the functions of Fire Control Officer (FCO) under the provisions of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*. Currently the two previous incumbents (under the old structure) of Cobar and Central Darling hold the statutory positions of FCO in terms of the *Rural Fires Act*.

Whilst the Commissioner of the Rural Fire Service (RFS) has the authority to authorise FCO's, current Rural Fire Service procedures require the consensus of the Council's General Manager in that appointment, which has not been previously obtained.

The Rural Fire Service is seeking Council approval for the Commissioner of the RFS to appoint the incumbent Team Manager, Superintendent Chris Favelle as FCO and Superintendent Dennis Dunlop, Inspector Robyn Martin, Inspector William (Bill) Britt as Deputy Fire Control Officers for Central Darling Shire Council. These appointments will in no way affect the current employment arrangements of the staff (who have been advised of the Service's intentions). This is a procedural matter only and therefore it is recommended that Council approve these appointments and inform the NSW Rural fire service accordingly.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the appointments as set out above.

13-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Brown that Council approves the appointments as set out above.

MOTION CARRIED

CR VAGG RECORDS AGAINST

4.8.2 NSW Rural Fire Fighting Fund 2005 – 2006

As a result of organisational change, it was agreed that the NSW Rural Fire Service would advise Councils each year of their estimated probable contribution (13.3%) to the Rural Fire Fighting Fund in February. Council received this notification on the 7th March 2005. This advice is to assist Council in the budgeting process and is compiled from current information and is based on

the requirements identified by Council in the estimates submitted earlier this year and details the estimated probable contribution for expenditure within the district from the Rural Fire Fighting Fund for the 2005 – 2006 financial years. The estimated probable contribution for Central darling Shire Council is \$85,769.00. It should be noted that negotiations are proceeding with Treasury in relation to Budget enhancements and as the State Budget will not be handed down in Parliament until June 2005, there might be slight variations to the estimates given.

RECOMMENDATION

That the NSW Rural Fire Fighting Fund report be received and noted.

14-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Reid that the NSW Rural Fire Fighting Fund report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

4.9 Council Code of Conduct Committee

As part of changes to provisions contained in the Local Government Act 1993 Councils are required to appoint a Code of Conduct Committee. It is recommended the Committee consists of the Mayor, General Manager and an independent person. To meet this requirement Council advertised for Expressions of Interest in the independent position. Applications closed on the 4th March 2005 and one response was received.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council investigates further for possible candidates for the independent position on the Code of Conduct Committee and considers Council's current legal advisors as an appropriate appointment.

The above recommendation was moved by Cr Wellings, seconded by Cr Longfellow.

Cr Brown moved an amendment, which was seconded by Cr Vagg:

15-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Vagg that Council further investigate possible candidates for the independent position on the Code of Conduct Committee

MOTION CARRIED

The amendment was carried.

The amendment becomes the motion.

The motion was carried.

4.10 Local Government & Shires Association – Options

Council would be aware there are discussions currently being held as a result of a proposal to amalgamate the NSW Local Government Association and the NSW Shires Association into one organisation.

Consultants Peter Woods OAM and Councillor John Wearne were engaged by the Local Government & Shires Association to provide a report for consideration. The “draft” report has been circulated to each Councillor for discussion and comment.

A formal response is now required by Council for consideration to determine this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Government & shires Association proposed amalgamation report be received and noted and Council considers a position in relation to any proposed amalgamation of the two Associations.

16-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Brown that the Local Government & shires Association proposed amalgamation report be received and noted and Council notifies the Associations that Central Darling Shire Council are against any proposed amalgamation of the Associations

MOTION CARRIED

4.11 2005-2006 Draft Management Plan

As council would be aware, the Local Government Act, 1993, requires Council to consider and prepare, on a yearly basis, a Draft Management Plan. A workshop was held on 14th March to discuss the Draft Management Plan of 2005-2006. A PowerPoint presentation was presented and a discussion paper prepared and supplied. The workshop allowed Council to consider the goals, objectives and strategies of council and determine if they are representative of the current operations of Council.

Below is an outline of all the amendments to the goals, objectives and strategies that Council felt were necessary, and included with this Agenda, is an amended discussion paper so that Council may take note of the changes.

Amendments to the goals, objectives and strategies of the 2005-2006 Draft Management Plan are:

PA 1 – Corporate Services

- 1.1.1 Seven days instead of five.
- 1.2.1 Current reporting processes and mechanisms to be reviewed.
- 1.7. Continued liaison with adjoining councils to investigate and encourage ongoing development. With specific investigations into the Roads to Recovery program for road funding priorities.

PA 2 – Public Order and Safety

- 2.6 A Drug Action Plan is to be developed, implemented and supported where appropriate.

PA 4 – Community Service and Education

- 4.4.1 Safehouse to develop and submit an annual budget; It must also be ensured that the agreement is complied with.

- 4.10. All Community Working Parties within the Shire are to be supported.

PA 6 – Water Supply

- 6.5 Alternate water supplies are to be not only investigated but also implemented.
- 6.6 Investigate the feasibility of improvement and / or repairs and maintenance to the Wilcannia Weir.

PA 8 – Recreation and Culture

- 8.4.2 Investigate the cost and practicality of portable ablution amenities for use in Wilcannia and Ivanhoe.
- 8.4.3 Investigate portable Canteen amenities for use within the Shire.

PA 9 – Built Environment

- 9.7.3 Funding options for repairs and maintenance of the Wilcannia Post Office are to be sought.

PA 10 – Transport and Communication

- 10.4.2 Upgrades to kerb and gutters, for Menindee are to be investigated.
- 10.4.3 Alternates for dealing with stormwater are to be investigated, ensuring the network is maintained to an appropriate standard.
- 10.5.2 Community seating would be more beneficial than bus shelters.

PA 11- Economic Development

- 11.1.2 Ongoing support to the Darling to Diamantina Project is to be continued.
- 11.2.2 To communicate the benefits of tourism for the Shire, a community educational program for shire residents and ratepayers is to be developed.
- 11.3 Advocate and develop town beautification and improvement throughout the Shire.
- 11.6 Prepare a business plan for development, improvement and maintenance of Caravan Parks under Council Control.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the report on the 2005-2006 Draft Management Plan.

17-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council receives and notes the report on the 2005-2006 Draft Management Plan.

MOTION CARRIED

18-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr MacMillan that a Workshop to discuss Rating and Budget Figures be held on the afternoon of Monday 9th May 2005

MOTION CARRIED

**SECTION 5. DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES
REPORT**

RECOMMENDATION

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

18-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Vagg that the Director of Corporate Services report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

5.1 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 - March 2005 | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|----------------|
| DATE | TIME PERIOD | INTEREST RATE | DUE DATE | TOTAL (\$) |
| 11am Call Account | | | | |
| Commonwealth | | 5.20% | | \$519,971.02 |
| Westpac | | 5.05% | | \$1,800,000.00 |
| Floating Rate Notes | | | | |
| Wollemi Trust | 85 points over 3mth BBSW | 6.28% | 8-Apr-05 | \$1,500,000.00 |
| -Managed by Westpac | | | | |
| Commercial Bills | | | | |
| Commonwealth | 3-Feb-05 | 86 | 5.33% | 28-Apr-05 |
| | | | | \$300,012.36 |
| Term Deposits | | | | |
| L.G.F.S. | 10-Jan-05 | 91 | 5.46% | 11-Apr-05 |
| | (at a margin of 15points over BBSW) | | | \$500,000.00 |
| Total Investments as at 31st March 2005 | | | | |
| 11 am Call Account | | | | \$2,319,971.02 |
| Commercial Bills and Notes | | | | \$1,800,012.36 |
| Term Deposits | | | | \$500,000.00 |
| | | | | \$4,619,983.38 |
| | | | | \$4,619,983.38 |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.

19-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.2 Rates Collection Statement

The rate collection statement for the month of March 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 | | | | | | |
| Wilcannia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 34,345.81 | 11,953.93 | 49,957.80 | - | - | 943.20 | 2,306.35 | 37,887.56 | 523.25 | 1,047.03 | - | 58,162.85 |
| Special Rate | 5,015.03 | 1,415.75 | 7,903.56 | - | - | 118.62 | 334.11 | 6,151.29 | 110.50 | - | - | 8,288.04 |
| Water | 88,009.47 | 23,681.76 | 145,120.00 | - | 500.00 | 996.89 | 5,782.70 | 113,949.63 | 1,176.34 | 1,443.75 | - | 145,527.32 |
| Water-Filtered | 9,749.49 | 8,660.24 | - | - | - | - | 600.73 | 1,599.12 | 266.37 | - | - | 17,144.97 |
| Sewer | 50,648.66 | 20,646.41 | 92,550.00 | - | 350.00 | 537.29 | 2,970.39 | 78,199.08 | 6.78 | 962.50 | - | 87,459.81 |
| Garbage | 27,835.18 | 8,447.43 | 50,245.00 | - | 160.00 | 229.49 | 1,686.69 | 41,796.34 | 395.90 | 1,256.47 | - | 44,696.10 |
| Excess Water | 75,815.68 | 10,457.46 | 23.00 | 110,846.80 | 1,103.20 | 1,415.70 | 3,217.48 | 95,593.94 | 159.47 | - | - | 104,294.51 |
| Charge on Land | 2,914.88 | - | - | - | - | 185.68 | - | - | - | - | - | 3,100.56 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -4,532.41 | -4,532.41 |
| Overpayments Water | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -8.70 | -8.70 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 294,334.20 | 85,262.98 | 345,799.36 | 110,846.80 | 2,298.88 | 4,241.19 | 16,898.45 | 375,176.96 | 2,638.61 | 4,709.75 | -4,541.11 | 464,133.05 |
| Ivanhoe | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 21,282.55 | 5,604.63 | 31,928.17 | - | - | 1,956.81 | 1,424.59 | 22,541.25 | 783.21 | 1,810.73 | - | 33,147.94 |
| Special Rate | 5,569.63 | 1,430.13 | 7,691.21 | - | - | 391.30 | 372.88 | 5,774.09 | 145.18 | - | - | 8,753.32 |
| Water | 34,729.44 | 7,106.71 | 40,100.00 | - | - | 2,860.23 | 2,248.24 | 30,707.85 | 847.61 | 1,706.25 | - | 48,062.45 |
| Water-Filtered | 5,190.58 | 3,529.40 | - | - | - | 859.91 | 331.04 | 200.11 | 625.19 | - | - | 7,365.81 |
| Garbage | 16,442.07 | 3,829.53 | 34,375.00 | - | - | 863.67 | 1,117.68 | 24,620.90 | 71.32 | 1,949.98 | - | 28,258.41 |
| Excess Water | 113,532.85 | 8,284.19 | - | 72,204.80 | 15.00 | 710.00 | 2,337.14 | 133,249.58 | 0.10 | - | - | 62,414.30 |
| Charge on Land | 394.00 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 394.00 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -1,162.89 | -1,162.89 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 197,141.12 | 29,784.59 | 114,094.38 | 72,204.80 | 15.00 | 7,641.92 | 7,831.57 | 217,093.78 | 2,472.61 | 5,466.96 | -1,162.89 | 187,233.30 |
| White Cliffs | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 8,215.78 | 2,855.54 | 25,205.48 | - | - | 282.76 | 510.50 | 21,009.99 | 1,705.05 | 1,414.18 | - | 12,375.32 |
| Special Rate | 718.78 | 182.64 | 2,828.55 | - | - | 7.77 | 45.82 | 2,470.20 | 101.89 | - | - | 1,195.93 |
| Water | 15,347.64 | 2,354.19 | 76,989.60 | - | 30.00 | 1,158.77 | 1,070.32 | 61,268.76 | 2,161.79 | 1,837.65 | - | 29,364.78 |
| Water-Filtered | 4,541.01 | 3,301.51 | - | - | - | - | 230.12 | 2,230.70 | 1,293.51 | - | - | 4,548.43 |
| Excess Water | 10,122.46 | 156.47 | - | 61,606.80 | - | 10,821.82 | 121.12 | 46,472.21 | 1.50 | - | - | 14,711.32 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -283.84 | -283.84 |
| Overpayments Water | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -89.15 | -89.15 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 38,945.67 | 8,850.35 | 105,023.63 | 61,606.80 | 30.00 | 12,271.12 | 1,977.88 | 133,451.86 | 5,263.74 | 3,251.83 | -372.99 | 61,822.79 |
| Menindee (Environ) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 35,817.53 | 10,757.74 | 74,651.16 | - | 415.20 | 1,229.52 | 2,342.55 | 60,035.06 | 2.56 | 4,358.51 | - | 58,358.53 |
| Special Rate | - | - | - | - | 102.50 | - | 76.88 | - | - | - | - | 25.62 |
| Garbage | 5,384.87 | 926.19 | 17,175.00 | - | 80.00 | 327.48 | 383.95 | 12,239.15 | 0.75 | 1,091.29 | - | 10,291.34 |
| Charge on Land | 227.00 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 227.00 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -156.14 | -156.14 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 41,429.40 | 11,683.93 | 91,826.16 | - | 597.70 | 1,557.00 | 2,726.50 | 72,351.09 | 3.31 | 5,449.80 | -156.14 | 68,746.35 |
| Menindee | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 22,347.92 | 4,124.14 | 47,279.18 | - | - | 18.53 | 1,695.15 | 28,679.50 | 4.02 | 2,711.13 | - | 44,033.21 |
| Special Rate | 3,694.98 | 785.15 | 7,968.15 | - | - | 2.15 | 276.21 | 5,456.28 | - | - | - | 7,266.06 |
| Garbage | 21,095.68 | 2,772.70 | 71,600.00 | - | 700.00 | 375.72 | 1,896.83 | 38,063.95 | - | 4,520.76 | - | 55,104.78 |
| Charge on Land | - | - | - | - | 145.86 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 145.86 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -754.52 | -754.52 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 47,138.58 | 7,681.99 | 126,847.33 | - | 845.86 | 396.40 | 3,868.19 | 72,199.73 | 4.02 | 7,231.89 | -754.52 | 105,795.39 |
| Rural | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 28,390.35 | 2,087.47 | 302,676.69 | - | - | 108.35 | 1,989.46 | 241,670.08 | 21.94 | 163.69 | - | 93,179.91 |
| Water | 9.95 | 0.09 | 1,200.00 | - | 160.00 | 400.00 | 6.96 | 732.40 | - | - | - | 244.60 |
| Excess Water | 1,751.61 | 19.94 | - | 4,154.60 | - | 318.45 | 45.51 | 5,318.48 | 7.18 | - | - | 327.55 |
| Charge on Land | 500.62 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 500.62 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -460.67 | -460.67 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 30,652.53 | 2,107.50 | 303,876.69 | 4,154.60 | 160.00 | 826.80 | 2,041.93 | 247,720.96 | 29.12 | 163.69 | -460.67 | 93,792.01 |
| Sundry Villages | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 885.10 | 374.72 | 1,142.33 | - | - | - | 35.70 | 1,000.88 | 1,407.83 | - | - | 29.14 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 885.10 | 374.72 | 1,142.33 | - | - | - | 35.70 | 1,000.88 | 1,407.83 | - | - | 29.14 |
| Sunset Strip | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 6,225.28 | 1,735.13 | 54,129.17 | - | - | - | 449.72 | 43,917.60 | - | 2,400.44 | - | 16,221.26 |
| Garbage | 251.10 | 9.16 | 3,450.00 | - | - | - | 22.26 | 2,615.45 | - | 146.88 | - | 970.19 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -757.32 | -757.32 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 6,476.38 | 1,744.29 | 57,579.17 | - | - | - | 471.98 | 46,533.05 | - | 2,547.32 | -757.32 | 16,434.13 |
| REPORT TOTAL | 657,002.98 | 147,490.35 | 1,146,189.05 | 248,813.00 | 3,947.44 | 26,934.43 | 35,852.20 | 1,165,528.31 | 11,819.24 | 28,821.24 | -8,205.64 | 997,986.16 |
| TOTAL ALL RATE GROUPS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 157,510.32 | 39,493.30 | 586,969.98 | - | 415.20 | 4,539.17 | 10,754.02 | 456,741.92 | 4,447.86 | 13,905.71 | - | 315,508.16 |
| Special Rate | 14,998.42 | 3,813.67 | 26,391.47 | - | 102.50 | 519.84 | 1,029.02 | 19,928.74 | 357.57 | - | - | 25,528.93 |
| Water | 138,096.50 | 33,142.75 | 263,409.60 | - | 690.00 | 5,415.89 | 9,108.22 | 206,658.64 | 4,185.74 | 4,987.65 | - | 223,199.15 |
| Water-Filtered | 19,481.08 | 15,491.15 | - | - | - | 859.91 | 1,161.89 | 4,029.93 | 2,185.07 | - | - | 29,059.21 |
| Sewer | 50,648.66 | 20,646.41 | 92,550.00 | - | 350.00 | 537.29 | 2,970.39 | 78,199.08 | 6.78 | 962.50 | - | 87,459.81 |
| Garbage | 71,008.90 | 15,985.01 | 176,845.00 | - | 940.00 | 1,796.36 | 5,107.41 | 119,335.79 | 467.97 | 8,965.38 | - | 139,320.82 |
| Excess Water | 201,222.60 | 18,918.06 | 23.00 | 248,813.00 | 1,118.20 | 13,265.97 | 5,721.25 | 280,634.21 | 168.25 | - | - | 181,747.68 |
| Charge on Land | 4,036.50 | - | - | - | - | 331.54 | - | - | - | - | - | 4,368.04 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -8,107.79 | -8,107.79 |
| Overpayments Water | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -97.85 | -97.85 |
| TOTAL | 657,002.98 | 147,490.35 | 1,146,189.05 | 248,813.00 | 3,947.44 | 26,934.43 | 35,852.20 | 1,165,528.31 | 11,819.24 | 28,821.24 | -8,205.64 | 997,986.16 |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rates Collections Report be received and adopted.

20-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Doyle that the Rates Collections Report be received and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.3 March 2004 Election – Candidate Declarations

Advice has been received from the Election Funding Authority detailing declarations lodged by candidates at the March 2004 election. In accordance with the relevant legislation these declarations are required to be brought to the attention of the Council and be made available for public inspection if requested.

A copy of the declarations will be held at the Wilcannia Office and should any member of the public wish to view the declarations they should contact that office in the first instance.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the declarations lodged by candidate at the March 2004 election and that it be made available for public inspection if required.

21-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Pease that Council accept the declarations lodged by candidate at the March 2004 election and that it be made available for public inspection if required.

MOTION CARRIED

5.4 Broadband – Wilcannia

Informal advice has been received from Telstra that the application to have Broadband connected in Wilcannia has been received and approved. The timetable for installation is still to be established, but is envisaged by the end of the 2005 calendar year. Following formal notification it would be appropriate to canvas the concept of introducing the same levels of technology in Menindee and Ivanhoe.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report on Broadband in Wilcannia be received and noted.

22-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Wellings that the report on Broadband in Wilcannia be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.5 2004-2005 Management Plan Review – Third 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 third quarter review of the 2004/2005 Management Plan as presented be adopted.*
 - 2. the budget review for the March 2005 quarter be adopted and the estimates be varied by the amounts as stated within the report.*
-

23-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Doyle that

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

MOTION CARRIED

25-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Vagg that Council suspend standing orders to allow the Governor of the Ivanhoe Correctional Centre Mr Dave White and the Deputy Governor, Tracy Mannix to address Council

MOTION CARRIED

The General Manager introduced Mr Dave White as the Governor of the Ivanhoe Correctional Facility and Ms Tracey Mannix, Deputy Governor, Ivanhoe Correctional Facility, thanking them for taking the time to address Council.

Mr White spoke of community projects the Correctional Services are currently undertaking in Hay, they would like to duplicate the project within Central Darling Shire. They are doing work such as:

- Restoration of Heritage Buildings,
- Mowing and upkeep of Oval,
- Upkeep of Swimming Pool Grounds,
- Upkeep of Airstrips
- Clean-up of Garbage Depots

Some of these are already being done in Ivanhoe, but the Correctional Centre would like to expand this into Menindee and Wilcannia.

Works that cannot be done by these gangs are:

- Repair of Stormwater Drains,
- Replacement of Guttering,
- Road repair.

What the Correctional Centre would like to happen is if Council can assist the Correctional Centre with repairs on the property, the gangs can reciprocate with clean-up work throughout the towns.

The Correctional Centre see these work gangs as beneficial not only for Council, but also for the inmates. It allows the inmates to contribute to the benefit of the town, increasing their self-worth, and the inmates feel trusted with these programs. The gangs are made up of minimum security prisoners getting toward the end of their sentence.

The Mayor thanked Mr White and Ms Mannix for taking the time to inform Council of this program.

***26-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett,
Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Council
Meeting standing orders resume***

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm and resumed 1:55 pm

SECTION 6. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

24-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Director of Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.

MOTION CARRIED

6.1 Activity Report March 2005

Staff meeting 6th April 2005

6.1.1 Staff

Nil action

6.1.2 Administration

Office Tasks Outstanding

| Location | Task | Percent Complete |
|--|---|----------------------|
| <u>Director of Engineering Services</u> | | |
| Office / Shire | Enquiries, Supervision, RTA Invoices | |
| <u>Works Engineer</u> | | |
| 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 % |
| <u>Contract Administration Engineer</u> | | |
| State Roads SIC | Administer | |
| State Roads SIC | Works Proposals submitted Works Orders received Inspection Maintenance Program – Implementation | $\frac{1}{5}$ 85% |
| <u>Administration Officer</u> | | |
| Office | Engineering Enquires, filing, correspondence | |

6.1.3 Training

Training planned

Senior First Aid for 1 employee

6.1.4 Housing & Community Amenity

Footpaths

Telstra pit re-set and repairs carried out at Club Hotel Corner

6.1.5 Water Supplies

Wilcannia

Darling River barely flowing over weir

Water meters

Next readings in June

Production bore

Separate report.

White Cliffs

Wakefield storage at approximately 30%

Ivanhoe

Severe restrictions remain in place

Separate report

6.1.6 Recreation & Culture

Parks & Gardens

Wilcannia War Memorial cleaned up generally

Menindee Cenotaph to be turfed before Anzac day

6.1.7 Transport & Communication

General

Loose Surface signs placed throughout Shire as road conditions deteriorate

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

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|------|---|--|
| SH 8 | Routine maintenance (SIMC). Shoulder grading | Ongoing. Sections completed before reseals |
| SH21 | Routine maintenance (SIMC) Edge patching Shoulder grading | Ongoing. Completed. Sections completed before reseals |

Regional Roads

Gravel has been crushed for re-sheeting various Regional and Local roads at the following pits:- Goonalga, Allambie, Abbotsford and Purnawilla.

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| MR 68B Wilcannia to Menindee | Reseal two sections | 5kms & 3.5kms |
| MR 416 Ivanhoe to Cobar | Maintenance grade | 12kms Ivanhoe end |
| MR 433 Ivanhoe to Menindee | Reseal | Creek crossings |

Local Roads

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| SR1 Wilc – Tilpa, east side | Maintenance grade | Various patches |
| SR10 Wilc – M'dee, east | Maintenance grade | 80km |
| SR33 Morrison's Lake | Reshape & Maintenance grade | Full length |
| SR43 M'dee Aerodrome | Bitumen seal | 1.2km |

6.1.8 Aerodromes

Menindee

Separate report

6.1.9 Next meeting

8.30am Tuesday 3rd May 2005, meeting room, Engineering Office.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted

The Director of Engineering Services gave an update of the Ivanhoe Bore, reporting that dollar for dollar funding has been applied for. There will be a 2-3 month delay in getting the power connected, a diesel generator can be installed if required.

The current bore will supply Ivanhoe's water with the current restrictions, once the second bore is in place the restrictions can be relaxed somewhat.

The Director of Engineering Services also gave Council an update of the Opal Miner's Way opening. This will happen on Thursday 28th April 2005. Minister Michael Costa will be in attendance, as will Member for Murray/Darling Mr Peter Black, and Mr Lew Laing,

The Mayor will attend, and he encouraged as many Councillors as possible to attend, and staff members also, particularly outdoor staff who have worked on the project.

25-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr MacMillan, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Parking, Correctional Centre – Ivanhoe

A request has been received from the Ivanhoe Correctional Centre for the installation of no stopping signs in front of the inmates' compound. It is feared that illegal substances could be transferred to inmates and that by precluding the stopping of vehicles in the immediate proximity this transfer would be detectable or at least discouraged.

RECOMMENDATION

That "NO STOPPING" signs be erected at the street frontage of the inmates compound at the Ivanhoe Correctional Centre.

26-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Linnett That "NO STOPPING" signs be erected at the street frontage of the inmates compound at the Ivanhoe Correctional Centre.

MOTION CARRIED

6.3 Information Items

6.3.1 Ivanhoe Water Supply

Current Situation

Pumping from Morrison's storage is due to commence Monday 11th April. Expectations are there will be sufficient water remaining for a further pumping in about six weeks. With the current severe restrictions consumption remains steady at slightly over 1MI per week. Recent meter readings indicate consumers have complied well with the water restrictions.

Bores

Results of analysis tests of the two boreholes in the vicinity of Morrison's storage have been received. Both holes are clear of bacteria and pesticide contamination.

Chemical Analysis results are as stated below.

Emergency bore No 1 passes all requirements for town water supplies with the exception of Total Dissolved Solids. The allowable limit is 500ppm. The sample result is 574ppm.

Emergency bore No 2 is above the recommended limits for Iodide, Manganese, Chloride, Sodium, Total Dissolved Solids and Total Hardness. With further pumping these readings may reduce to nearer the limits and could be within the acceptable levels with water from both bores shandied.

Design, cost estimates and quotations are being compiled so that a grant application can be forwarded to the Minister for pumping equipment, pipelines, electricity and alteration to water receiveal at the treatment plant. All government funding for this project will be on a \$ for \$ basis.

6.3.2 Menindee Airstrip

Bitumen sealing of the runway, taxiway, apron, car parking area and access roads has been completed. The runway was opened for aircraft movements on Tuesday 22nd March 2005. Runway markings and fencing are items to be completed. At the time of writing this report expenditure costing is not complete, however it is expected the estimated \$500,000 will have been expended with the access roads being funded from the Local Roads budget. Fresh quotations are being sought for electricity connection and lighting. Solar powered lights may be an option.

6.3.3 White Cliffs Road Opening

MP Peter Black's secretary has again not been able to supply a date for this event. The latest is that it has gone to the Premiers Department for a Minister to officiate at the opening.

6.3.4 Wilcannia Production Bore

Current situation

At the time of compiling this report, even though the bore is operational, outstanding items to either rectify problems or to complete this project are in progress. Extra scour and air valves have been installed, some automatic air release valves are leaking and the pipeline is in the process of being pressure tested. As nil flow is imminent in the Darling River, the bore will remain as the source for Wilcannia's filtered water supply. As a requirement of Section 10A (2) (c) of the Local Government Act, a separate confidential report will be tabled on meeting day for this item.

Bore costs to date.

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| DIPNR – pre \$600,000 grant | | |
| Ground water investigation and hydro geological study | | \$133,000 |
| DIPNR – from \$600,000 grant | | |
| Drilling test holes, converting to monitoring bores, casing, screening, developing, test pumping and sampling of final bore hole | | \$184,000 |
| Grants available to CDSC | \$600,000 - \$184,000 | \$416,000 |
| | 50% of \$100,000 | \$ 50,000 |
| CDSC contribution | 50% of \$100,000 | <u>\$ 50,000</u> |
| | | \$516,000 |
| | | \$700,000 |

Funding for Total Project

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| DIPNR Expenditure (Actual) | | |
| Production bore | \$120,177 | |
| Groundwater monitoring | \$ 12,636 | |
| Site Inspection, travel & investigation | \$ 2,500 | |
| Environmental Impact Assessment | \$ 14,300 | |
| Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Survey | \$ 4,200 | |
| Engineering Survey | \$ 15,840 | |
| Preconstruction Project Management | \$ 4,500 | |
| Other – land | \$ 700 | |
| Initial Design | \$ 2,000 | |
| Design check | \$ 0 | |
| Power to site, deposit | \$ 7,181 | \$184,034 |
| Council Expenditure (Actual with allowance to completion) | | |
| Preconstruction | \$ 1680 | |
| Electricity Installation | \$64,636 | |
| Pipeline materials | \$80,156 | |
| Pipeline installation | \$47,102 | |
| Sundry labour, aboriginal/heritage observer | \$ 6,038 | |
| Project management, superintendence and engineering | \$91,275 | |
| Bore pump and installation | \$47,764 | |

| | | |
|--|----------|------------------|
| Interface and process adjustment at water filtration plant | \$60,186 | |
| CDSC rent flat 3 | \$ 688 | |
| Bore and pipeline completion after practical completion | \$24,000 | \$423,525 |

Council expenditure claimable from contractor (Actual with allowance to completion)

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Rectify bore and pipeline 00 to 362.47m | \$50,535 | |
| Pipeline pressure testing | \$ 6,903 | |
| Pipeline protection strips (road crossings) | \$ 2,048 | |
| Sundry debtor, plant hire, materials etc | \$ 7,349 | \$66,835 |
| Prolongation expenses covered by liquidated damages from contractor | \$73,120 | \$73,120 |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Information Items be received and noted.

27-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Pease that the Information Items be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 7. MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

31-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Manager of Environmental Services Report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

7.1 Information Items

7.1.1 Ivanhoe SES Headquarters

At last month's Council Meeting questions were raised regarding the proposed future site of the Ivanhoe SES Headquarters. Some concern was raised due to the length of time taken to transfer the property to Council. Discussions with Council's solicitor indicate that the transfer of the property is in the hands of the Western Lands Department (DIPNR) and delays have incurred due to the necessity to transfer the lease from the original leaseholder to Council and also to change the purpose of the lease to accommodate the future use of the land parcel.

7.1.2 Menindee Cemetery – Headstone Marking Project

As reported last month, a dedication ceremony will take place at the Menindee Cemetery to finalise the headstone marking project that has been undertaken over the past 12 months. As a reminder for all Councillors, the ceremony will take place on Saturday 7th May 2005 commencing at 11.00am. Invitations will be sent to those families who have participated in the project (it is also noted that one particular family will be flying in from the USA). Flyers will also be prepared closer to the date and the event advertised. Lunch will be provided after the ceremony at the table and seating area provided behind the Menindee Tourist Information Centre.

7.1.3 DIPNR Visit

A letter has been sent to DIPNR inviting representatives from their department to address Council on various issues. To date, no response has been received.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's Information.

32-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Longfellow that the Information Items be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

7.2 Waste Management Meetings

In February 2005, public meetings were held in the townships of Menindee, Ivanhoe and Wilcannia to discuss future

recommendations for waste management in Central Darling Shire. The meetings were held by Council in junction with Netwaste to gain public input into the preparation of the Western Subregional Waste Management Plan (currently being prepared by Netwaste). Council has since received a copy of the discussion notes from the meetings and a summary of the comments from each town has been provided below;

Menindee

The community workshop held at Holy Trinity Hall attracted four residents. The following issues were raised –

- Opportunities exist at the moment for recovering funds given high scrap steel prices.
- It would be better if the green wastes could be mulched (provided they were not contaminated)
- Locals refer to the dump/garbage depot/tip as the T-Mart for their source of materials unable to be procured through shops
- Education of local residents is paramount if the standard of housekeeping at the waste depot is to improve. It was expressed that it would be preferable for the facility to be closed down and a new facility started. A waste transfer station could be constructed on the site and the wastes taken to a non-public access site that could be better managed
- Numerous other landfills occur in the Menindee area managed by DEC (NPWS) – Kinchega NP, State Water (Menindee Lakes Foreshore), caravan park operations, local orchards and grazing properties. On occasions when these facilities are full etc, excess rubbish is brought into Menindee (and placed at no charge)
- Waste generation in the Menindee area is seasonal. Tourist levels fluctuate according to the level of water in lakes (no water – no tourists, lots of water- many tourists/fishermen). During peak seasons, the population around Menindee can increase to 2,500 – many seasonal pickers reside on the farms
- Wastes generated in town would be typical of municipal wastes
- Council commissioned Ron Hellyer of Outback Management Concepts to review/recommend improvements to Menindee Waste Depot. The commissioning of the report is a commendable start to improving the standard of management at the depot. However, Council advises it is not in a position at present to adopt the recommendations because of lack of funds.
- A substantial concern of residents in Menindee is the disparity with Council's waste management charge between Menindee and other towns.
- It would be residents preference that all wastes generated in the Menindee area are collected and placed in a dedicated, well managed facility. This would involve all wastes from DEC (NPWS), State Water, all caravan parks

etc being managed in one facility, and that the Menindee facility is financially viable with inputs from other sources, particularly State Government Departments.

- Education of towns people is badly needed starting at the school and progressively working through the community.
- Problems with plastic bags and paper waste blowing around from waste depot.
- Waste oil – State Water has recently deployed containers around Menindee for local businesses/residents to place their oil. This practice is simply a local initiative and not promoted by State Water.

Ivanhoe

The community workshop held at the Ivanhoe Community Hall attracted one resident. The following issues were raised –

- It is very difficult to provide a good standard of waste management when the population base is so small
- Greater use of Council's website (and other websites) to disseminate information/practices on waste management
- Ivanhoe demonstrated a good response to the Netwaste promoted plastic bag replacement program. It was well publicised through the school paper, some people even went out to the garbage depot to collect bags to swap for a cloth bag.
- Garbage dump often lit although no complaints from smoke because of wind direction
- If recycling introduced, Council/Ivanhoe community would need assistance to help set it up from collection through to sale.
- Garbage depot currently operates 24/7. Unlikely to be well received by locals if restricted hours. The dump is not just a site for rubbish, it is the town's hardware store where many residents visit to collect a part etc for a repair.
- The main source of employment in Ivanhoe is the Correctional Centre. Approx 20 persons are employed by the Department of Correctional Services to manage the centre. The inmates are periodically taken to the Ivanhoe waste depot to help clean up the wind blown rubbish beyond the dump area.

An observation made by the consultant during the Ivanhoe workshop was that rural areas such as Ivanhoe have been unable to pay for the proper management of its waste depot because dwindling population levels has reduced the amount of money available to spend on waste management (and other Council services). Whilst there is a recognition that improvements are needed and that the approach to waste management needs to change, the issue of cost remains. Perhaps the State Government needs to assess the approach to this issue and assist local communities such as Ivanhoe to “draw a line in the sand” and assist to clean up legacies of the past and assist the community to start again, albeit in a more sustainable manner. It is believed this line of thought may be incorporated as a recommendation into the Western Sub-Regional Waste Management Plan.

Wilcannia

The community workshop held at the Wilcannia Community Hall attracted 14 residents. The following issues were raised –

- The local waste depot is referred to as Mitre 12 as it is regularly used as source of hardware materials given the absence of a hardware store in Wilcannia.
- The general attitude to waste management in the community is assessed to be low given the standard of the waste depot. This standard is likely to be recognised by many in the community as acceptable. As such, there is also illegal dumping on the outskirts of town including motor vehicles
- Most recyclables are collected privately in Wilcannia and on-sold to Broken Hill Bottle Depot. The recyclables collected included aluminium cans (it is indicated that 35,000 cans are collected monthly from Wilcannia), PET bottles and glass bottles (beer only/not wine, as there is no 5c refund on wine bottles)
- Biggest problem in Wilcannia is plastic bags, as evidenced from the waste depot.
- The range of media/promotional outlets that could be used for community education include: local radio, Wilcannia News, and a large sign on the way to the waste depot (recognised by those present to be essential)
- The opportunity to recover steel scrap from the waste depot as a means of tidying up the depot and attracting funds for the tidy up itself was cautiously welcomed by community participants, provided some materials were left for the Mitre 12 concept.
- Garbage depot currently operates 24/7. Unlikely to be well received if restricted hours.
- At present, there are no facilities for collection/storage of waste oil although a recently established mechanical workshop would be prepared to coordinate the installation of a joint facility
- Guidelines need to be obtained for management of fibro building wastes generated as buildings are demolished.

- The main impediments to improve waste management would be lack of money and community education
- There are clearly opportunities to improve the environmental standard of the Wilcannia Waste Depot. The compilation of before/during/after photos would assist to demonstrate the level of improvement. Such photos could be used to attract funding from other sources, such as Keep Australia Beautiful
- A number of residents expressed an interest in starting the process to improve the standard of environmental performance at the waste depot. This could be achieved by setting aside a separate area away from the existing waste areas to allow the placement of recyclables etc and to effectively commence a new Mitre 12 and recycling centre. This activity would require a level of signage, albeit basic to start with. The development of this area would operate simultaneously with a clean-up campaign and an appropriate level of education to explain/involve the community within the changes.

Questionnaires

A number of questionnaires were completed by the participants and community members. The main focus of the questionnaire was to ascertain the communities expectation of waste management for the future and how improvements could be made to the existing waste depots. Although a wide and varied response was received, the most common thread noticed from the responses was the request for recycling services; the segregation of waste at the waste depot into separate waste streams; the sale of saleable waste materials; and the lack of funds available to Council to manage waste efficiently.

Summary

Overall, the community meetings provided a general overview of the expected future direction of waste management in the towns of Menindee, Ivanhoe and Wilcannia. Most community members identified that improvements to the current waste depots are required, and were able to provide some feedback as to how these improvements could be achieved. The questionnaires also revealed that most community members were in favour of recycling waste materials, however identified that lack of funds to undertake their expectations was a problem currently faced by Council. Many good ideas and valuable comments were forthcoming from the communities involved and sufficient information was gained by the consultant to enable Central Darling's situation to be honestly portrayed in the Western Sub-Regional Waste Management Plan. As part of the plan's formulation, recommendations for improvements to waste management in the Shire will be incorporated (as extracted from the community meetings), enabling Netwaste to utilise these recommendations to leverage funding for the Shire to improve the current waste management situation. It is expected the plan will be finalised in June 2005. Council will be informed in the future as further information comes to light.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Waste Management Meetings report is received and noted

33-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Reid that the Waste Management Meetings report is received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

7.3 Homecare Lease Agreement

Background Information

In July, 1994, Central Darling Shire Council agreed to act as a sponsor for Home Care Services of NSW and provide a suitable serviced site where Home Care could erect an office to provide their necessary services. A site was found and allotted to the purpose being on Reserve 1007439 located in Ross Street, Wilcannia. The land was provided with a 10 year lease with a 10 year option at no rental. It is now desired by the owners of the building to extend the occupation of the area. It is also proposed by the occupiers that in the vicinity of \$100,000 will be spent on the building in the immediate future to undertake renovations; the timeframe for expenditure of the funds must be by the June 30th 2005.

Current Situation

The existing Homecare building located at 17 Ross Street, Wilcannia is constructed on Crown Reserve 1007439, dedicated for Local Government purpose on the 13/12/63; Council was designated Trustee of the Reserve on the 12/3/64 however no Trust name was ever provided. There is an apparent existing lease between Council and Homecare as noted above, however this document has not been locatable at the present time. Discussions with DIPNR reveal that the original lease agreement was not endorsed by the Minister prior to activation, therefore is most likely technically invalid. It has now been requested by Homecare that the lease be renewed for a further ten year term as soon as possible to enable renovation work to commence.

To enable this matter to proceed, it is necessary for a valid lease agreement to be prepared between the Trust of the Reserve (which also needs a name) and Home Care Services NSW. It is proposed the lease agreement would contain similar wording and jargon as presented to Council last month for the Menindee Children's Centre Lease Agreement. As the lease proposal is for a long term lease (ie greater than 5 years) the procedure requires that the proposal also be advertised. A copy of the draft lease agreement can be provided upon request.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council advise DIPNR that the Reserve 1007439 be known as the Homecare Building Reserve Trust***
 - 2. That Council, as the appointed trust manager for the Homecare Building Reserve Trust, enters into a lease agreement with Homecare for Reserve 1007439 located in Ross Street, Wilcannia.***
 - 3. That the proposal be advertised.***
-

4. *That the lease agreement be forwarded to DIPNR for approval and signature by the Minister*
 5. *That Council sign and affix the seal to appropriate documents.*
-

34-4-05 *Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr MacMillan 1. That Council advise DIPNR that the Reserve 1007439 be known as the Homecare Building Reserve Trust*

2. *That Council, as the appointed trust manager for the Homecare Building Reserve Trust, enters into a lease agreement with Homecare for Reserve 1007439 located in Ross Street, Wilcannia.*
3. *That the proposal be advertised.*
4. *That the lease agreement be forwarded to DIPNR for approval and signature by the Minister*
5. *That Council sign and affix the seal to appropriate documents.*

MOTION CARRIED

7.4 Amendments to Local Environmental Plan

BACKGROUND

Council previously resolved to amend the 2004 Local Environmental Plan to resolve a number of small errors and requests from The Department of Planning & Natural Resources. A considerable amount of work was undertaken to achieve this goal but unfortunately work was suspended when the Department of Planning & Natural Resources advised it was changing the format for planning schemes in NSW.

Recent talks with the Department now indicate that the proposed reforms may take longer than first thought, possibly years, especially for remote areas of NSW. It would appear yet again that the problems caused by growth areas such as Sydney are considered the major concerns and will be tackled in the first instance. This effectively means that Councils such as Central Darling may not be required to comply with the new provisions in the immediate future.

As a result of this change of focus, the Department has agreed that the proposed amendments proceed without the need for compliance with the new template. This will allow Council to proceed with a number of minor amendments and yet keep its recently adopted Local Environmental Plan, 2004.

The Department has requested Council to review 25 points in its amendment; however it is considered that not all of these should be considered at this time. Some issues are potentially contentious and could result in the proposed amendment being delayed due to objections to those particular issues.

Whilst some concerns are still held regarding the possibility of starting this process only to have to stop again due to legislative changes, it is considered that Council can not continue to wait for this matter to resolve itself. It may not. Accordingly, the need to resolve certain issues outweighs the risk of a change in the near future. Should the amendment run its course without undue difficulties, the amendment could be resolved within 12 months.

A major concern with the proposal to proceed with these amendments, is the continued changes of direction from the Department of Planning & Natural Resources. It is entirely possible that during the course of this amendment, that the goal posts could be moved again. Unfortunately the days of making a Local Environmental Plan that lasts for 20 years or more are gone. Council will be required to continually review and update its plans with a major review on average every five (5) years. This will shortly be legislated along with a raft of other changes.

ISSUES

The main issues that require addressing are: -

White Cliffs Dug Out areas – a zone 1 (d) dugouts is proposed to be created to allow for the approval of existing and new structures as well as adopting guidelines for their construction;

Changes to allow for the construction of rural workers accommodation;

Miscellaneous changes to tidy up a number of housekeeping matters such as changes to definitions etc. (see attached list of proposed changes – Appendix 1).

CONCERNS

The main areas of contention are likely to be agricultural land sizes and irrigated agriculture. Apart from the philosophical issues of whether or not Council should control these issues, they are likely to cause significant delays to the process and have therefore been left out of the amendment.

Council is aware of pressures from elements of the White Cliffs community to allow for subdivisions and amendments to land titles to allow freehold ownership. Also additional areas for future development have been sought.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That Council resolves to prepare a Draft Amendment to the Central Darling Shire Council Local Environmental Plan, 2004 under section 54(1) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979. Such amendment to be known as Amendment No. 1 – Central Darling Shire Council Local Environmental Plan, 2004.

2. That the proposed amendment deal with the issues as raised within this report.

3. That as per Section 54(4) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979, Council notify the Secretary of the Department of Planning & Natural Resources of its intention to prepare an amendment to the Central Darling Shire Council Local Environmental Plan, 2004.

4. That Council prepare a Draft Amendment in accordance with the provisions of Section 54(5) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979.

5. That as per Sections 57(1-5), Council request a list of matters to be considered from the Director Department of Planning & Natural Resources.

6. Council requests the Minister to forego the requirement to prepare an Environmental Study for the proposed amendments.

35-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Wellings 1. That Council resolves to prepare a Draft Amendment to the Central Darling Shire Council Local Environmental Plan, 2004 under section 54(1) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979. Such amendment to be known as Amendment No. 1 – Central Darling Shire Council Local Environmental Plan, 2004.

2. That the proposed amendment deal with the issues as raised within this report.

3. That as per Section 54(4) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979, Council notify the Secretary of the Department of Planning & Natural Resources of its intention to prepare an amendment to the Central Darling Shire Council Local Environmental Plan, 2004.

4. That Council prepare a Draft Amendment in accordance with the provisions of Section 54(5) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979.

5. That as per Sections 57(1-5), Council request a list of matters to be considered from the Director Department of Planning & Natural Resources.

6. Council requests the Minister to forego the requirement to prepare an Environmental Study for the proposed amendments.

MOTION CARRIED

**APPENDIX - 1 : Proposed Amendments to the Central Darling Shire Council
Local Environmental Plan, 2004.**

| Issue | Comment | Recommendation |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Add new heritage items | Review website | Remove sites no longer relevant |
| Change format of Heritage listings | Better description | Not required – will consider in next major review |
| White Cliffs Subdivision | Access, Services, effluent | This is the major reason for the review at this time and includes proposed new areas for dugouts. |
| Remove existing holdings | | Not recommended |
| Definitions | Check | Some minor amendments to definitions have been made |
| Land Use Tables | Expand | Considered but not required |
| Exempt & Complying Development | Revise | Change made to improve reference to ECD |
| Revise controls on irrigated agriculture | Expand in definitions | Minor change to aerial spraying - irrigated ag not included in this amendment due to concerns over possible delays. |
| Rural Residential Zones | Undertake study | Not required at this time |
| Horse stables | Include controls | Minor revision of land use tables for 2 (t) town |
| Itinerant Workers Accommodation | | Included in definitions and land use tables |
| Animal boarding | | Minor amendment to definitions |
| Sustainable Agriculture – lot sizes | | Not included in this amendment due to possible conflicts and delays. |
| Lot size – un-sewered areas | | Minor amendment for new subdivisions only |
| Buffer on dwellings from rural land | | Included in Exempt & Complying Development policy |
| Rural Workers Accommodation – irrigated ag. | | Minor amendment to allow this type of accommodation |
| Irrigate agriculture definition to include cotton | | Not included in this amendment due to possible conflicts and delays. |
| Flood provisions do not include major earth works | | Change to clause to include works as well as buildings |
| Forestry | | Not Applicable |
| Definition of Tree | | Amended slightly in definitions |
| Provision for covenants | | Provision included |
| SEPP 44 Koala Habitat | | Included |
| SEPP 55 | | Reference included |
| Artificial Water Bodies | | Reference included in Definitions |
| Designated Development | | Reference updated in Definitions |
| Dug Outs | | Included in Definitions and Land Use Tables |

SECTION 8. MANAGER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

36-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded Clr Doyle that the Manager of Community Development's report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

8.1 Information Items

8.1.1 2005 Financial Assistance Grants

A reminder that the 2005 round of Financial Assistance Grants are currently open and that applications close on the 30th April 2005.

Applications can be obtained from the Council office and post offices within the Shire.

8.1.2 Commercial Enterprise Project

As reported at the March Council Meeting, Charlotte Finch's (Project Manager, Barwon Darling Alliance) visit last year to Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Menindee and Ivanhoe where she addressed the community and identified residents who wish to start their own business, a series of client interviews are planned for April 2005.

A half day will be spent with each identified client (or client group) and Charlotte Finch, Roxanne Smith (Dept. State and Regional Development), Wynne Allen (Dept. of Fair Trading) and Sharon Hutch (Manager of Community Development). The aim is to use the time to work with the client on the construction of a personalised action plan for the establishment of the new business leaving each party with their own step by step description of the series of actions they need to take and the people that can support and assist them to complete each action.

The coordinator for these Western Cluster Commercial Enterprise Project clients will be the Parkes/Forbes Business Enterprise Centre Development Officer and he will be the client's first contact point for assistance and connections to any specific agency or department that is applicable to each action plan step, eg. the Australian Taxation Office for GST and ABN.

The Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) has recently developed a Business Development Manual which will be trialled with each client. Feedback on this manual will go back to DSRD.

Visits to identified clients intending to start new businesses will take place in April. These visits intend to provide information and support for the initial start-up of businesses and the provision of further contacts with relevant specialists will enable on-going support of the fledgling businesses and their proprietors. Tentative dates for these visits will be the week of the 18th April.

RECOMMENDATION
For Council's information

37-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Linnett that the information items be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

8.2 Community Access Bus Program

The contract for the Wilcannia and Menindee Community Access Bus Program is due to expire in June 2005. Tender specifications for this service are currently being prepared in consultation with Far West Area Health Service and the NSW Ministry of Transport.

An advertisement requesting the lodgement of expressions of interest in tendering for this service will be placed in the Barrier Daily Truth, the Wilcannia News and the Menindee School News prior to the completion of these tender documents to enable the targeting of possible service providers.

RECOMMENDATION

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

38-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Pease that the Community Access Bus Program report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.3 Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet

The Manager of Community Development is in the process of arranging a meeting with the S355 Committee for the Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet to review progress. Assistance will be provided where required to assist the committee to fulfil their obligations under the agreement for the provision of social support and transport services.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet report be received and noted.

39-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Brown that the Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.4 Rural Transaction Centres

A press release will be issued to the Wilcannia News and the Menindee Central School News informing residents of the current status of the Rural Transaction Centres.

Menindee – Prefabricated building to be on site around end of May.

Wilcannia – Plans have been revised slightly requiring a Development Application to be lodged for a component of the building works. A timeline of construction is as follows:

The General Manager commended the Management Team of the Rural Transaction Centres, the program is on track to be completed within time frames.

| TASK | START | FINISH |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| 1 Development Application | 12/4/05 | 22/4/05 |
| 2 Build wall between Bank and RTC | 15/4/05 | 18/4/05 |
| 3 Remove asbestos external walls and reline external walls | 19/4/05 | 2/5/05 |
| 4 Relocate plumbing and drainage | 3/5/05 | 5/5/05 |
| 5 Build internal walls | 6/5/05 | 18/5/05 |
| 6 Re-wire electrical wiring | 6/5/05 | 10/5/05 |
| 7 Install skirtings, doors etc | 19/5/05 | 23/5/05 |
| 8 Install counter | 9/5/05 | 9/5/05 |
| 9 Install kitchen | 24/5/05 | 25/5/05 |
| 10 Paint throughout | 26/5/05 | 8/6/05 |
| 11 Install carpets & tiles | 9/6/05 | 15/6/05 |
| 12 Install alarms | 10/6/05 | 10/6/05 |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rural Transaction Centres report be received and noted.

40-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Doyle that the Rural Transaction Centres report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 9. RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Correspondence for Council Information be received and noted

41-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Vagg that the Correspondence for Council Information be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

9.1 Media Releases

| Date | Sender | Contents |
|-----------|---|--|
| 3/4/2005 | John Anderson, (the Hon.), M.P. | Pope John Paul II: Statement by the Deputy Prime Minister |
| 1/4/2005 | Peter Black Member for Murray Darling | 2005 Tidy Towns Program entries now open |
| 24/3/2005 | The Nationals | Darling River and Menindee Lakes issue up for debate |
| 24/3/2005 | NSW Department of Primary Industries | Two charged over illegal netting in Darling River near Menindee |
| 22/3/2005 | NSW Department of Primary Industries | New Mapping Program to Boost Exploration Investment |
| 21/3/2005 | Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | Council's Welcome Regulator's Rejection of Energy Australia Street lighting Price Proposal |
| 21/3/2005 | Isolated Children's Parents Association | "Out of the Blue" |
| 17/3/2005 | Peter Black Member for Murray Darling | Last chance to nominate for Regional Development Boards |
| 17/3/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | Page Research Centre Report of Telecommunication Details for the Future |
| 10/3/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | Labor contempt of Regional Australia reaches new low |
| 10/3/2005 | Peter Black Member for Murray Darling | Black Welcomes Enclosure Permit Reforms |
| 9/3/2005 | Central Darling Shire Council - Wilcannia | Bitumen Sealing Menindee - Pooncarie Road |
| 7/3/2005 | Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | Costa accused of snubbing Local Government on road issues |

9.2 Circulars

| Sender | Date | Contents |
|---|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 8/4/2005 | Local Government Weekly 14/05 |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 6/4/2005 | 05/13 - Companion Animals Management |
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 1/4/2005 | Local Government Weekly 13/05 |
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 24/3/2005 | Local Government Weekly - 12/05 |

| Sender | Date | Contents |
|---|-----------|---|
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 24/3/2005 | 05/12 - Exposure Draft Liquor Amendment Legislation |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 22/3/2005 | Portable Soccer Goal Posts |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 22/3/2005 | 05/11 variation of general income for 2005/2006 |
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 18/3/2005 | issue 11/05 |
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 14/3/2005 | Local Govt warns of crisis in tourist infrastructure funding |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 9/3/2005 | Legal Assistance for Councillors and Council Employees - 05/08 |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 9/3/2005 | Practicing the Principles of Multiculturalism Pilot Project - Expressions of Interest |

9.3 Letters

| Date | File No | Sender | Regarding |
|------------|--------------|--|---|
| 6/04/2005 | 120-06 -1/4P | Royal Flying Doctor Service | Thanking the Mayor and Council for the upgrade of the Menindee Airstrip |
| 5/04/2005 | | Wilcannia Central School | Thanking Council for participation in the "Amazing Race" for Youth Week |
| 22/03/2005 | 73-3-1/38P | Menindee & Sunset Strip Pensioners Assoc | Thanking Council for \$500 donation towards Seniors Week celebrations |
| 7/03/2005 | 73-2-1/71P | Mr John Pineo | Concern about drinking in Alcohol Free Zones, and the non-policing of these zones |

| Date | File No | Sender | Regarding |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| 4/27/2005 | 210-10 -3/11P | Hay Shire Council | Proposed changes to classification of the Cobb Highway - opposition to reclassification by Hay Shire Council |

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

10.1 CDSC Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes Page 49-51

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Traffic Committee

42-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Traffic Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.2 CDSC Staff Consultative Committee Minutes Page 52

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Staff Consultative Committee

43-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Staff Consultative Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.3 CDSC OH&S Meeting Minutes Page 53-54

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health & Safety Committee

44-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr MacMillan that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health & Safety Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.4 CDSC Risk Management Minutes 1st March 05 Page 54-55

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Risk Management Committee

45-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Brown that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Risk Management Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.5 CDSC Risk Management Minutes 6th April 05 Page 55-56

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Risk Management Committee

46-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Brown that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Risk Management Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.6 Wilcannia Telecentre Minutes 14th Dec 04 Page 56-57

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Wilcannia Telecentre Committee

47-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Pease that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Wilcannia Telecentre Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.7 Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Group Page 57-58

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Group

48-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded Clr MacMillan that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Group

MOTION CARRIED

10.1 Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 22ND MARCH AT IVANHOE

The meeting commenced at 1.10pm.

Apologies

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Cr Graham Wellings | Deputy Mayor, CDSC |
| Cr Robert Vagg | Councillor, CDSC |
| Mrs Holly Davies | Works Engineer, CDSC |

Attendance:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Mr Mal Files | Road Safety and Traffic Officer, Roads & Traffic Authority |
| Cr Clive Linnett | Councillor, CDSC |
| Cr Ray Longfellow | Councillor, CDSC |
| Cr Barbara MacMillian | Representing Mr Peter Black, OAM, MP, Member for Murray Darling |
| Mr Russell Bow | Director of Engineering Services, CDSC |

Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting (held 26/11/2004)

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed by Mr M Files and Mr R Bow with discussion as below of several items.

Business Arising from Previous Meetings

Proposed 110 km/hr speed zone, South of Ivanhoe

Mr Files reported that 110kph speed zoning is approved and is soon to be signposted.

Proposed Information Bay, White Cliffs

The upgrade is to proceed when resources become available. Council to order information bay signs.

Proposed Stock signs for MR435

Stock warning signs have been installed throughout Mena Murtee and Duntroon. A letter is to be sent to RTA requesting provision of stock warning signs for the remainder of stock grids on MR 435.

Erection of Welcome signs, Ivanhoe

Signage design agreed, signs ordered and received. About to be installed.

Proposed 110 km/hr speed zone, Wilcannia – White Cliffs Road

Mr Files reported request for speed zoning to 110kph has been submitted for approval. Awaiting reply.

2004/05 Road Safety & Traffic Management Programme Update

Plastic medians have been installed in Reid Street Wilcannia adjacent to the hotel. The perimeter and barrier lines are to be marked.

No Stopping signs, Ivanhoe Correctional Centre

Separate report for Council resolution.

Signage, White Cliffs Intersections

This signage was again discussed.

Site 1 – Intersection MR435 and Keraro Road

Mr Files suggested a preferred treatment for site 1 would be to install new finger board signs showing distances to Wilcannia, Broken Hill and Wanaaring and that the current White Cliffs sign be replaced.

Site 2 – Intersection of MR435 and SR29

That the existing parallel signs be lowered, and a WILCANNIA 94 km finger board be installed at the top, double sided.

Site 3 – Intersection of MR428 and SR 4

That no changes are required.

Proposed Truck Parking Bay, White Cliffs

As Council owns the land on the northern side of Keraro Road adjacent to MR435, an appropriate layout is to be drafted for consideration at the next meeting.

Rest Area Sign posting, Wilcannia

Advanced rest area signage for Wilcannia including toilets are to be provided by RTA. Tasks to be done are:

- Sign at Motel to be renewed
- Estimate for internal and external lighting at Myers Street toilet block is to be prepared with consideration for solar powered lighting against electricity extension from sewer pump.

General Business

Signage at Hay

Cr Linnett raised the issue that the Cobb Highway signage is ambiguous and unclear. Mr Files advised that RTA South West Region has not honoured it's commitment to improve the Cobb Highway/Ivanhoe signage at the junction of the Mid Western and Cobb Highways at Hay. Mr Files suggested that CDSC communicate directly with Hay Shire Council.

Remote Service Signs

Cr Longfellow enquired as to the progress with these signs. Mr Files advised this signage is proceeding within CDSC. Problems exist with cooperation of RTA SW Region at Hay.

Signs are to include Fuel, Food, Bed, Caravan and Hospital.

Menindee Preschool

A request has been received from the driver of a commercial bus run to have a bus zone at Menindee Preschool. Mr Files advised that it is allowable to install a Bus Zone outside the preschool. Bus zone signs are to display prescribed hours. Child warning signs are also to be erected with a "preschool" plate affixed.

A further request is to have school bus warning signs erected at the end of the bitumen on MR68B, Wilcannia Road. Mr Files advised that it is in order to erect "school bus stop" warning signs at this location and that he will provide information re this signage, also it be investigated that if this section of MR68B is a designated route "school bus route" signs should be posted.

In response to a question without notice from the December 2004 Council meeting to have a speed zone at the Menindee preschool, Mr Files advised that speed zoning is not allowed for preschools as children must be accompanied by an adult.

Emmdale Landcare Group

RTA has agreed to Emmdale Landcare Group to affix a sign on the side of the shelter shed at McCullough's Range rest area subject to Council's approval.

Recommendation

That Council approve the erection of the Emmdale Landcare Group sign at McCullough's Range rest area.

MR435 Opal Miners Way

Now that the name is approved, Mr Files suggests that Council may consider reviewing the signage for White Cliffs and that upgrade of the signs incorporate the name of the road.

Recommendation

That White Cliffs signs be upgraded and Opal Miners Way be incorporated on the signs.

Proposed Meeting Dates

Tuesday 3rd May 2005, Menindee

Tuesday 2nd August 2005, Wilcannia

Tuesday 1st November 2005, White Cliffs

Date/Time/Place of Next Meeting.

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 3rd May 2005 in Menindee. (This is tentative only as Mr Files has indicated that he may not be available)

Meeting closed at 2.20pm.

10.2 Minutes of the Central Darling Shire Council Staff Consultative Committee

Held at Council Chambers, Commencing at 9:35am
Thursday 10th March 2005.

Present:

Russell Bow (Chairman), Cr Robert Vagg, Tim Hazell , Kylie Smith, Rod Dillon, Trevor Jones, Mick Williams.

Apologies:

Mayor Peter Sullivan, GM Bill O'Brien, Holly Davies, Vera Pearson.

Confirmation of minutes from last meeting: 2nd December 2004

The minutes of the December meeting were confirmed.

Moved: Mick Williams Seconded: Rod Dillon

Business Arising:

Staff Appraisals

Staff Appraisals were due in February and should be completed within the next fortnight.

Temporary employees that have been made permanent due to their experience in their position have had their trial period of 6 months reduced to 3 months to align with current staff appraisals.

General Business:

- Staff Appraisals should be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- Tim Hazel put forward to members the possibility of regrading three Council employees, Accountant, Senior Administration Officer and Payroll Officer to the appropriate grade for their position and experience.

A discussion took place amongst members and it is to be recommended to Council that these changes take place.

- The recent changes of the recording of Annual Leave on Council Staff payslips has been causing confusion amongst the Outdoor Staff and it would be preferred that the Annual Leave be recorded on the payslips as it has been done so previously.

Trevor Jones proposed that another column be added to the payslips to show the weekly accruing Annual Leave and the available Annual Leave.

Tim Hazel is to find out with Vera if this change is possible.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday 7th June 2005
- Meeting Closed 10:35am

10.3 Minutes of the Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee

held at the Council Chambers, commencing at 11:00am on
Thursday 10th March 2005.

Present: Russell Bow, Tim Hazel (for GM Bill O'Brien), Cr Vagg, Mick Williams, Trevor Jones, Rod Dillon.

Apologies: Mayor Peter Sullivan and GM Bill O'Brien

Confirmation of Minutes: 22nd December 2004.

The Minutes of the December Meeting were accepted.

Moved: Mick Williams

Seconded: Russell Bow

Business Arising from Previous Meeting:

- Emergency Contact List, Kristy Karkoe to update and distribute to all personnel for Council vehicles.

Training Completed Since Last Meeting:

- Traffic Controller Training was completed by the appropriate staff.
- A Manual Handling Course was completed by all appropriate staff.

Safety Videos:

It was suggested that the remaining safety videos be assessed to see whether or not they are relevant for the Outdoor staff.

Kristy Karkoe to organise the collection of videos.

Workplace Safety Check Lists:

Mick Williams completed a checklist for the Council Depot's and Filtration Plants to be viewed by members. The checklist has been scheduled to be trialled on April 5th 2005.

Emergency Service Warning Signs:

Mick Williams has done an order for the Warning signs that are required for the appropriate areas, he is still waiting to hear what hazardous signs need to be ordered.

General Business:

- The Safety Officer is researching further options of air extraction devices at the Wilcannia and Ivanhoe Water Filtration Plants.
- A price for a breathing apparatus kit is to be sought.
- There will need to be a call for nominations for an office staff representative to fill in the position of Secretary for the OH&S Committee.
- It was suggested by Mick Williams that a Hot & Cold water cooler be purchased for each Council Depot. One unit and two bottles of water will be issued to each town, when the water that has been supplied has been used, it will be up to staff to obtain water from their local rainwater supply.

- All members agreed to the purchase.
- Tim Hazel wished to advise the committee that the Risk Management Group had begun their Risk Assessments. The Wilcannia Swimming Pool was the first to go under inspection. Tim has spoken to Mick Williams in regards to the minor work that is required to be completed.
- The Hepatitis Injections are underway again, with the Wilcannia Outdoor staff booked in on Monday 14th March 2005 for their next vaccine injection. Kristy Karkoe to call the Menindee, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs Hospital to obtain the results of blood tests.
- Kylie Smith has asked that the Bank staff be included in Hepatitis Injection programs.
- Russell Bow proposed that Council looks into the possibility of applying a Blood and Alcohol Testing Policy for the testing of alcohol levels of staff.
- An example of the policy was passed around to all members for viewing and is to be discussed at the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday 7th June 2005

Meeting Closed at 11.45am

10.4 Central Darling Shire Council Risk Management Committee – 1st March 2005

Held in the Council Chambers commencing 2pm

Present: Tim Hazell, Sharon Hutch, Russell Bow, Kylie Smith Jeff Forster, Mick Williams.

Apologies: Gordon Scott.

Minutes of Last meeting held on the 17th November 2004

Accepted by those in attendance as true and correct.

Risk E-Profiling – Ian Dollery

Slide presentation on what is risk management, why we need to manage risk and how this is achieved. The discussion highlighted the use of risk assessments in managing and identifying risk. Two management tools were presented in the discussion, being the risk e-profiling system and manual risk assessments.

The session concluded with a visit to the Wilcannia pool demonstrating the use of risk assessments and what to look for in their completion.

Complaint policy update (Sharon).

This policy was accepted by the group at the last meeting but still has not been presented to MANEX. Kylie is to forward the policy to be included in the MANEX agenda for endorsement.

OOPS form and procedures update (Russell and Mick).

At this stage the form is still in the development phase and further updates will be provided at the next meeting. During discussion it was decided that two forms are needed. One form for personal injury and one form for property and plant damage.

Central Darling Shire Council Claims report.

Scott Tonkin visited Council on the 14th of December 2004. At this stage no new claims were evident since the report given on the 15th of November.

Motor Vehicle Policy discussion (Tim).

Policy still in the formulation stage.

Direction of Risk Management Committee.

Group discussion on the direction of Committee produced a consensus to focus on issues of perceived high risk in the area of Public Liability at this stage. The need to be flexible in the group approach to meet Council's ever changing needs was also highlighted.

Council pools were flagged as an issue with top priority at this stage with footpaths second on the agenda to be dealt with.

The main issues associated with the pool were identified as training, safety and supervision.

A workshop has been scheduled for 9am on Thursday the 3rd of March at the Wilcannia pool to complete a risk assessment of the area. Tim will invite Leeanne to attend to provide additional expertise and guidelines in the area.

General Business.

Next meeting date to be confirmed at Thursdays workshop.

Kylie to investigate the cost of Risk e-profiling and purchase if cost is \$1,500 or below. Quotes received in excess of this figure are to be presented to the group for discussion.

Next meeting date: To be set at Workshop

Meeting Close 5:10pm

10.5 Central Darling Shire Council Risk Management Committee - 6th April 2005

Held in the Bank commencing 2pm

Present: Tim Hazell, Sharon Hutch, Russell Bow, Kylie Smith

Apologies: Gordon Scott, Jeff Forster, Mick Williams.

Minutes of Last meeting held on the 1st March 2005

Accepted by those in attendance as true and correct.

Changes proposed to Wilcannia Pool Risk Assessment.

Given the feedback from Ian Dolley of Statewide the original risk assessment has been accepted by the committee. The assessment will be adjusted to show the most serious issues in order of possible impact.

Pool Risk Assessments for other locations.

- Menindee will be the next Risk Assessment to be completed by Russell, Sharon, Tim and Trevor Jones (Menindee Depot)
- The date is still to be fixed with the assessment complete prior to the next meeting.
- Kylie is to obtain copy of Standard AS2416-2002 for the committee to view prior to recommendations on signage.
- White Cliffs and Ivanhoe Assessments are to follow.

Statewide Audit results.

- Report tabled at meeting with an executive summary of the document available to the committee prior to the next meeting.
- The focus for next month's work is the Gathering information section focusing on development of a full list of documents used by Council. The template can be found in H drive of Councils computer system under Risk Management.

Next meeting date: 12th May 2005 2pm at the Bank

Meeting Close: 2:30pm

10.6 Wilcannia Telecentre Committee Meeting Minutes (These Minutes are subject to confirmation at next Committee Meeting)

Minutes of Committee Meeting Held 14th December 2004

Meeting Opened: 5.10 pm

Present: Anthony Pease, Pat Barraclough, Paul Brown, Sharon Hutch, Tim Hazell, Adelaide Middleton.

Apologies: Karin Donaldson

Previous Minutes: Motion: That the previous minutes are a true and correct record

Moved: Tim Hazell, Seconded: Sharon Hutch

General Business:

RTC Plans: The Committee discussed the plans and any suggestions for modification or further information on materials can be obtained from Gordon Scott through Tim Hazell.

Youth Week: We will again be putting in an application for the \$1,000 youth week grant for 2005. The \$1000 is to be spread across the four towns in the shire, Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Menindee, Ivanhoe. Plans have to be submitted to Sharon Hutch before the 21st of January 2005.

Back to Wilcannia Week: The sub-committee for Back to Wilcannia Week is to be dissolved and a letter of thanks be sent to the members of that committee in appreciation for their outstanding work.

Moved: Anthony Pease

Seconded: Pat Barraclough

Thank You to Jo: A Letter will be sent to Joanne Reynolds in appreciation of all the hard work she put in whilst at the Telecentre.

Moved: Tim Hazel

Seconded: Sharon Hutch

Commendation: Tim commended the photo display, art exhibition and reading program.

Correspondence In: The community technology grant for next year for the access computer has been approved to the sum of \$1,000. This money pays for the use of the computer.

Correspondence Out:

Further Business: Discussion took place to determine the suitability of the Telecentre to accept goods for sale on consignment or commission. It was decided that the Telecentre should not accept any goods on consignment or commission basis.

Moved: Sharon Hutch

Seconded: Tim Hazell

Meeting Closed At 6.00pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday the 8th March

10.7 Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Group

(Formerly Central Darling Shire Council Tourism and Economic Development Board)

These Minutes are subject to confirmation at next Committee Meeting

Commenced: 12 noon

PRESENT:

Diana Hoffman, Michael McInerney, Paul Brown, Suzie Fisher, Moya Reid, Barbara MacMillan, Sharon Hutch, Geoff Looney (via phone)

APOLOGIES:

Graham Wellings, Otto Rogge, Ray Longfellow, Justin McLure, Julie McLure, Carol Williams

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. The chairperson Diana Hoffman began by welcoming Sharon to the meeting and her position.
2. It was identified that the last meeting was held in September 2003 and no minutes were recorded.

3. For those new members, Diana related the history of the Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Board.
4. The discussion was opened re future of the board and structure to be as follows:
 - The board is necessary to continue strategic planning and other issues affecting the entire shire.
 - Agenda items to be notified.
 - Quarterly meetings
 - Membership – 3 representatives with be accepted from each region (Menindee & surrounds, Tilpa, Ivanhoe, White Cliffs, Wilcannia). Up to 2 of those representatives to be delegated councilors and 1 or 2 interested parties. Quorum to consist of 4 members from different regions. Manager of Community Development to be ex-officio member.
 - Chairperson to be the convener.
 - Meetings to be calendarised.
 - Membership list to be produced.
5. Notice seeking expressions of interest in representing each of the five regions on the advisory group to be produced. Closing date – 29th April 2005. (Sharon)
6. Councillor from each region to cull expressions of interest to maximum of 3.
7. Notice to council requesting delegates to advisory group. (Moya)
8. Notice to council requesting reimbursement of transport costs, 1 per region for meetings. (Moya)
9. Name to be changed from Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Board to Central Darling Shire Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Group.
10. Paul stated that negative comments about the town of Wilcannia has a huge impact on tourism. He believes that Tourism NSW may have funding available to promote the benefits of tourism within the shire to our residents. (Sharon to investigate)
11. Michael McInerney
 - Inquired about photo copyright.
 - He advised that possibly in September there will be a “Back to Tilpa Weekend”.
 - Tilpa to be advertised as “Village on the Floodplain”
 - Requested heritage trail signs for Tilpa.
 - Drop slab building in Tilpa requires restoration. (Diana advised to contact the Heritage Adviser from Bourke)
12. Geoff advised that Mary Wilson’s cemetery project to open on 7th May, 2005.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.40pm.

Next Meeting to be held in Wilcannia on 10th June 2005 at 7pm.

SECTION 11. DELEGATES REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Delegates Reports be received and noted

**49-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr MacMillan,
Seconded Clr Reid that the Delegates Reports be
received and noted**

MOTION CARRIED

11.1 Cr Barbara MacMillan

11.1.1 ALGWA (NSW) 2005 Annual Conference

Held in Albury-Wodonga 17-20th March 2005

Thursday 17th March

Attended the registration procedure and then the Mayoral Reception which was held in the garden of the Albury Convention and Performing Arts Centre. Beautiful setting. The conference was sponsored by "Country Energy".

Friday 18th March

We were welcomed by the Mayor and President of ALGWA NSW. The venue was the Albury Convention and Performing Arts Centre and this centre is splendid.

The keynote speaker was the Hon. Faye LoPo MP who gave a brilliant, witty speech. She accentuated the upward mobility of women socially and politically since 1900.

60 years ago one employing body sent a memo to all its departments (this memo was also picked up and used by other employers). The memo listed 11 'tips' for getting more efficiency out of women employees. These 'tips' ranged from:-

- a) Heavy girls are more even-tempered, to
 - b) Making sure instructions are detailed,
- with a further 9 points of maudlin advice.

Today 50% of the population are women
 60% of the workforce are women
yet 1% only of property belongs to women.

Faye then outlined briefly matters pertaining to women since Federation in Australia.

- 1902 Women given the vote
- 1910 Age of consent raised from 11 years to 16 years
- 1912 Maternity Allowance commenced
- 1918 Custody rights given to women
- 1919 First woman Councillor
- 1941 Child endowment granted
- 1943 First women elected to Parliament (2)
- 1960 The pill
- 1966 Married women now allowed to work in Public Service

- 1969 In some (few) areas equal pay introduced
- 1971 Women first allowed a bank loan
- 1972 Unmarried mothers allowance commenced
- 1976 No Fault divorce introduced and in South Australia rape in marriage rated as a crime
- 1981 Pat O'Shane became the first Aboriginal magistrate

Faye's message came through loud and clear.

The next speaker was the Honourable Diane Beamer MP who gave a dynamic speech. The points she outlined were:-

1. There is a lack of representation of women in the 3 areas of Government
2. We need a National Framework for women in Local Government
3. We need female input in the planning of care for the aged
4. There should be 1 LEP for each Local Government area
5. There is little or no Councillor input into DA applications
6. There is a dearth of female planners

Diane cited examples relevant to the 6 aforementioned points.

Bev Laing and Pat Gord facilitated the next session.

Pat Gord outlined the problems which arose with the recent boundary changes. Pat was Mayor of Albury when Shire and Council boundary changes were first mooted.

After the amalgamation of Albury Council and Hume Council, Pat ceased to be Mayor and Dr Arthur Frauenfelder (a vet) became Mayor of the new area.

Julie Griffiths was our next speaker.

Julie spoke on

- special needs programmes,
- the interplay between DoCS, Federal and State Governments,
- problems which have arisen with the removal of funding from Local Government and
- the ability of Local Government in the tendering market/

After lunch there was an interesting panel session.

Susan Ley MP for Farrer was the first speaker. Her subject was "Life within our Community".

She deplored the movement from Country to City, and emphasised the need to maintain one's sense of humour.

The second member of the Panel to speak was Dr Terry Hillier, an Orthopaedic Surgeon. He spoke about his practice and the benefits of being in a country practice, which he stated were:-

1. The use of a Private Hospital practice
2. The benefits of having a group practice

3. The improvements in spinal surgery
4. The meetings and discussions with overseas visiting surgeons who have come to be trained
5. The fact that Melbourne and Sydney send Orthopaedic patients to Albury.

However, he also spoke of the “clouds on the horizon”:-

1. Shortage of Doctors
2. The administration of Hospitals from afar
3. The changes in Doctors profiles
4. The lawyer turn off of patients
5. Lack of interest in rural life
6. Most local communities are disenfranchised.

Advice given – “Grow your own Doctors!”

Speaker No. 3 on the panel was Professor Gayle Whitford. Her subject was Occupational Therapy.

The advances made in Occupational Therapy and its advantage as an adjunct to medicine were outlined and we all became aware of how important O.T. has become.

Kathy McGowan, a consultant, a farmer and an academic then took over.

The accent of her talk was the ability of women to be farmers, not just farmers wives. To prove her point, she showed a slide of a sheep lifter she had invented. This lifter is used to lift sheep onto a truck or utility in the paddock. As she pointed out, when you can't handle something, think of other ways of doing the job.

A very pertinent point!

Andrew Cottrill representing Telstra (“Local boy done good”) spoke re Telstra matters and the future of Mobile Hard Speed and Mobile Broadband. These two forward progressions in communication are being installed in the Riverina first.

Andrew likes meeting with country people because they are so “straight”.

Candidates were then presented who were standing for the NSW ALGWA Executive.

Following afternoon tea, workshops were held, we had a choice of two.

My first choice was “Cultural Development with the Community” with Chris Pidd, Regional Art Development Officer. We had a very interesting hour with Chris looking at, discussing and arguing concepts regarding cultural development, its place, and scenarios of implementation.

Increase awareness of licensing laws
Promote Community interest
Decrease interventions
Develop and maintain alliances
Enhance local amenities

3. Strategies

Adopt RSA and HARM
Focus on ID age
Focus on minimising intoxication
Continue Security Patrolling
Continue Curfew/Lockout
Have high visibility of venues
Keep standard incident logs
Have bus schemes
Taxi voucher schemes
Network with other licenced premises
Have Town Alcohol Plans
Review progress regularly

Jenny Hanuska reiterated all of the above and we came away feeling that Accords are worthwhile and achievable when the community is involved.

The second and final workshop was run by a lass called Julie Rudner. Julie is a Canadian, and is the Environment Officer, Albury Council.

The subject was "Getting beyond the Greenwash".

This revolved around social marketing of the Environment.

This was very interesting in that extreme environmentalists were given the hoist, and the radical Greenpeace approach deplored.

Most members of the group had stories to tell of the inanity of the radicals in relation to the environment, e.g. rivers and forests. Great discussions took place.

Following lunch we turned up for a A.G.M., to be told it would be held June 4th 2005 at Bankstown,

A wetlands or city tour followed champagne and nibbles on the buses.

Dinner at the Convention Centre (louverly) and dancing (traumatic).
Home at half past/

Terrific show!

Thank you

Cr Barbara MacMillan

Cr Pease congratulated Cr MacMillan on a very interesting, informative report.

11.2 Cr Moya Reid

11.2.1 Sunset Strip Progress Association

SPECIAL MEETING SUNSET STRIP
ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS
PRESIDENT BILL FRASER
SECRETARY HELEN TEELow
TREASURER BRENDA LANGFORD

While the committee proper is acceptable, the positions of assistant president was placed by proxy.

I would recommend that the committee proper be accepted, and that all assistant positions be held over until the A.G.M. to be held in August.
Cr.Reid

11.3 Cr Clive Linnett OAM

11.3.1 Wentworth/Balranald Counselling Service

On Thursday 17th March, I presided as Chairman, a quarterly meeting of the Wentworth/Balranald Rural Counselling Service.

It is a concern of the Management Committee along with the Rural Counsellor Brian Dodson & staff of the ongoing drought and the effects and pressure on rural families as there is no guarantee that financial assistance will be available after December this year with Centrelink and also the Interest Subsidy as the Governments are showing signs of easing back with help.

Main points on the agenda were:

- A Business Plan was presented for 2005 to 2008 and was approved by the committee.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST – rewrite Policy Manual for staff and committee.
- Kerry Keady (Solicitor) suggests that committee members who are clients have their files independently audited by an appropriate person ie Jack Forbes (Centrelink)
- Social Support: To assist Rural Financial Counsellors within the area and also an invitation for local Politicians to visit the region.
- Lease renewal: Mildura Office
- Staff Contracts
- Insurance Policy
- Tax Audit West 2000 Plus
- Rotary Golf Day

Current statistics within the Wentworth/Balranald Rural Counselling Service are as follows:

Client No.

Balranald - 31

Broken Hill City - 6

Central Darling - 79

Wakool - 2

Wentworth - 47

Unincorporated - 46

Other - 11

Average debt - \$600,044.00

Average equity – 65.40%

SECTION 12. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Reid

Asked if the entrance road to Copi Hollow could be taken on as a Council road.

The Director of Engineering Services said work on the road is scheduled for July by the Community Group, with assistance from Council. The Director of Engineering Services will investigate whether it would be a viable option for Council to take responsibility for this road.

Cr Brown

Asked for an update of the Wilcannia Post Office building.

The General Manager replied it was still in the Conveyancing stage.

The Director of Corporate Services said a request was received from the Solicitor asking for final payment. The overdue rates will be taken off the purchase price. Council have paid the requested amount, so the transaction should soon be completed.

Cr Pease

Asked if there was an update on the damage to the Old Wilcannia Bridge.

The Director of Engineering Services reported that Council has not received a response from the RTA. The Director of Engineering Services will follow up.

Cr Longfellow

The entrance road into the Ivanhoe Garbage Depot is badly corrugated. Can it be graded.

The Director of Engineering Services said it will be done as soon as possible.

Cr Longfellow also asked if the fence around the regeneration area can be repaired? It has been cut again.

The Director of Engineering Services will investigate the matter.

Cr Linnett

Requested an Emergency Management Meeting be scheduled for late in May.

The Director of Engineering Services will organise.

Cr Linnett also asked if the Ivanhoe Works Gang can check the railway line at Ivanhoe.

Cr Linnett also asked if the road north of Ivanhoe can be graded.

The Director of Engineering Services will investigate.

Cr Linnett also asked if Council will supply a wreath to each town in the Shire for ANZAC Day.

The General Manager said it will be done.

**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

The Mayor asked Councillors to decide who the delegates to the Shires Conference in Sydney will be. It was decided:

- A Ward Cr Barbara MacMillan
- B Ward Cr Clive Linnett
- C Ward Cr Moya Reid

The Mayor and the General Manager will also attend.

Cr Wellings reported he had received a request from the White Cliffs Gymkhana Committee asking if Council would be prepared to donate \$500 to the event as has been done in the past.

***50-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings,
Seconded Clr Linnett that Council donate \$500
to the White Cliffs Gymkhana to be held on 7th-
8th May 2005***

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 15. CONFIDENTIAL MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

that Council form into a Committee of Council comprising the whole of the Council and the General Manager according to the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A (2) (a) in order to discuss personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors), and Section 10A (2) (e) in order to discuss information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of the law.

51-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council form into a Committee of Council comprising the whole of the Council and the General Manager according to the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A (2) (a) in order to discuss personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors), and Section 10A (2) (e) in order to discuss information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of the law.

MOTION CARRIED

52-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr MacMillan that the Meeting resume normal status

MOTION CARRIED

53-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Doyle that all resolutions made in the Confidential Meeting of Council be brought into the normal meeting and be included in the Minutes

MOTION CARRIED

The following are the resolutions passed at the Confidential Meeting.

54-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council formally resolve that the positions of General Manager, Director Corporate Services and Director Engineering Services be considered as Senior Officers within Councils structure.

That Council formally adopt the Local Government and Shires Associations Guidelines for Providing Cars as issued in December 2000.

That Council formally adopt the valuation techniques as outlined in this report for other non-cash benefits for the purpose of external reporting.

MOTION CARRIED

55-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Wellings That Council offer the Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Tim Hazell a further three (3) year performance based Employment Contract to take affect from the date of signing and affixing the Council Seal to the Contract documents..

That Council sign and affix the Council Seal to the Contract documents.

MOTION CARRIED

56-4-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Doyle that the Director of Engineering Services report to the Confidential Meeting be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 16. FIXING DATES AND VENUES FOR NEXT MEETING

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 4:20 pm

The next meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 10th May in the Wilcannia Council Chambers, commencing at 9:00 am

There will be a workshop for all Councillors and senior staff on Monday 9th May commencing at 2:00 pm to discuss the Management Plan and projected budgets.
