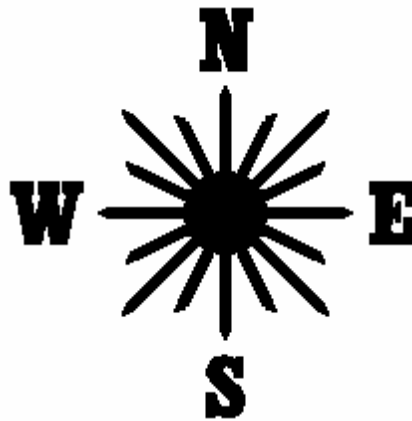


Mission Statement

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

CENTRAL DARLING



SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes

For the Ordinary Meeting

Held on

Tuesday 18th October 2005

at

Ivanhoe

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 RSL Club, Ivanhoe on Tuesday 18th October 2005 commencing at 9:35 am.

SECTION 1. RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES AND THE GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE	4
SECTION 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	5
2.1 Business Arising out of Minutes.....	5
2.2 Notices of Motion/Rescission.....	6
SECTION 3. MAYORAL MINUTE OR REPORT	7
SECTION 4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT	8
4.1 Administration Matters.....	8
4.1.1 Manager Environmental Services.....	8
4.2 Information Items.....	8
4.2.1 ABC Radio – Classic FM Transmission.....	8
4.2.2 Local Government & Shires Association of NSW- Local Agenda Magazine.....	8
4.2.3 Bourke & Wills Museum – Indigenous Cultural Centre Menindee.....	9
4.3 Disclosures Of Pecuniary Interests.....	9
4.4 Wilcannia Works Program – Community Development Employment Program.....	10
4.5 New South Wales Rural Fire Service “Draft” Estimates 2006– 2007.....	11
4.6 Lower Murray Darling Catchment Authority.....	12
4.7 Crown Lands Legislation Amendment Act 2005.....	12
4.8 State Emergency Service – Menindee SES Unit.....	15
4.9 Central Darling Shire Council – Country Energy: Memorandum of Understanding.....	16
SECTION 5. DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT	19
5.1 Schedule of Investments.....	19
5.2 Rates Collection Statement.....	20
5.3 Goods and Services Tax Certificate.....	21
5.4 Questions.....	21
5.5 2004-2005 Annual Financial Reports.....	22
SECTION 6. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT	23
6.1 Activity Report September 2005.....	23
6.1.1 Staff.....	23
6.1.2 Administration.....	23
6.1.3 Depots.....	23
6.1.4 Plant.....	23
6.1.5 Training.....	24
6.1.6 Water Supplies.....	24
6.1.7 Sewerage.....	24
6.1.8 Transport & Communication.....	24
6.1.9 Aerodromes.....	25
6.2 Information Items.....	26
6.2.1 Mount Manara Deviation.....	26
6.2.2 Pooncarie Road – MR 68C.....	26
6.2.3 Boat Ramp – Menindee.....	26
SECTION 7. ACTING MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT	27
7.1 Building Legislation Amendment (Smoke Alarms) Act 2005.....	27
SECTION 8. MANAGER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT	29
8.1 On-Line Community Directory.....	29
8.2 Menindee Fun Day.....	29
8.3 Barwon Darling Alliance Traineeships.....	30
SECTION 9. RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDENCE	35
9.1 Media Releases.....	35
9.2 Circular/Newsletters.....	35
9.3 Letters.....	36
SECTION 10. THE RECEPTION OF REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES	37
10.1 Staff Consultative Committee Page 40.....	37
10.2 Occupational Health and Safety Committee Page 40-42.....	37
10.3 Wilcannia Cemetery Committee Page 42.....	37
10.1 Staff Consultative Committee Minutes – 13 th September 2005.....	38
10.2 OH&S Committee Minutes – 13th September 2005-10-1.....	38
10.3 Wilcannia Cemetery Committee.....	40
SECTION 11. DELEGATES REPORTS	41
11.1 Cr Clive Linnett – 61 st National Conference & Annual General Meeting of the Murray Darling Association.....	41
11.2 Cr Anthony Pease – 2005 LGSA Water Management Conference 1 st & 2 nd September 2005.....	42
SECTION 12. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE	44
SECTION 13. PUBLIC ACCESS - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC	47
SECTION 14. URGENT BUSINESS	48
SECTION 15. CONFIDENTIAL MEETING	49
SECTION 16. FIXING DATES AND VENUES FOR NEXT MEETING	51

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

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Peter Sullivan

Graham Wellings

Barbara MacMillan

Anthony Pease

Paul Brown

Mike Arandt

Moya Reid

Rick Doyle

Suzie Fisher

Clive Linnett

Ray Longfellow

Robert Vagg

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr Bill O'Brien

General Manager

Mr Tim Hazell

Director of Corporate Services

Mr Russell Bow

Director of Engineering Services

Mrs Sharon Hutch

Manager of Community Development

Mrs Marilyn O'Brien

Senior Administration Officer

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Mike Arandt

RECOMMENDATION

That the apologies be received and noted

***1-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded
Clr Doyle 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

2-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett that the minutes of the previous meeting be received

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Reid brought to Council's notice that a mover and seconder needed to be added to Resolution 37-9-05.

Cr Brown requested the Director of Corporate Services comment that the Annual Financial Reports were not available be included in the Minutes.

The above amendments have been made to the October Final Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted

3-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted with amendments as listed above

MOTION CARRIED

2.1 Business Arising out of Minutes

2.2 Notices of Motion/Rescission

Central Darling Shire Council

For Meeting – October 2005

Notice of Motion

Background

On several occasions there has been debate on the recording of minutes of Confidential items on the meeting agendas. A number of councillors believed that this had been resolved however there appears to be some uncertainty. The following motion is presented in an effort to resolve the matter.

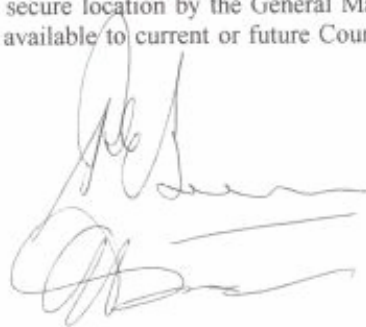
Motion

That minutes of Confidential Items and Meetings be recorded in sufficient detail that a third party who may not have attended the meeting, on reading the minutes be in a position to understand the reasons for the acceptance or rejection of any resolution voted on during the meeting.

That it be a requirement that these confidential minutes be accepted at any subsequent meeting of council and a copy stored in a secure location by the General Manager. These minutes may subsequently be made available to current or future Councillors and Management as required.

Moved : Councillor Brown

Seconded: Councillor Pease



There was much discussion on this matter, with the consensus of Council being that the matter be deferred to the November meeting of Council when a comprehensive report from Senior Staff will be made available.

The Mayor also reported to Council that there is a rescission motion, but this will be dealt with in the Confidential Section.

SECTION 3. MAYORAL MINUTE OR REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Report be received and noted

***4-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow,
Seconded Clr MacMillan that the Mayoral Report
be received and noted***

MOTION CARRIED

The Mayor reported that he attended Peter Black MP's Mayor's meeting in Ivanhoe on 28th September. Mr Adam Badenoch, Chief of Staff to Minister Ian MacDonald was in attendance. Matters discussed included:

- 3 CMAs within the Shire, the 2 minor CMA's will need to liaise with the major one. The boundaries cannot be changed.
- Kinchege Channel, all present were in agreement, the Channel has so stay.
- Year of the Outback for 2006 – only one Council did not think they got much out of the last one.
- Western Land Lease conversion to freehold, but this is for town blocks only and mainly affects Broken Hill.

The Mayor's meeting didn't finish until 2:30, which didn't give much time for Kilfera, but unfortunately the weather was not very kind, had 4 seasons in one day!

Thursday 29th September – to Wilcannia to meet with Managing Director of Country Energy Mr Craig Murray, where the Community Notice Board was presented to the Wilcannia community, followed by a BBQ lunch.

Welcomed the CWA Ladies to their Annual Conference, made most welcome.

The Mayor asked the Senior Staff to put a comprehensive report to the November Meeting regarding the issues raised in a report prepared by Cr Brown and circulated to Councillors. The report raised allegations concerning the handling of grant funding by some senior officers.

The Mayor also tabled the letter received from the Chairman of the Trustees for the AR Bluett Awards Mr John Flannery, thanking the General Manager for his hospitality and kindness on the occasion of the Presentation of the Award, and acknowledging Council for doing a great job under difficult circumstances.

SECTION 4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

5-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Vagg that the General Manager's report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

4.1 Administration Matters

4.1.1 Manager Environmental Services

Staff Contractual Issue – referred to the confidential section of the meeting in accordance with Section 10A (2)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as a personnel matter concerning particular individuals.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Administration report be received and noted

The General Manager also informed Council that Mandatory Inspections Officer Mr Gordon Scott has resigned from Council, and will work as required on a Consultancy basis.

6-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Vagg that the Administration report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 Information Items

4.2.1 ABC Radio – Classic FM Transmission

Council has been advised that an application prepared for assessment under the Radio Self-help Retransmission Scheme has been approved. A Self Help Retransmission Deed between the ABC and Central Darling Shire Council confirming a subsidy of \$20,493.00 has been approved for the provision of ABC Classic FM at Ivanhoe.

Council will be required to obtain a transmitter (apparatus) licence from the Australian Communications Media Authority (ACMA) and arrange for the installation of the transmission equipment. All associated costs are contained within the funding agreement.

4.2.2 Local Government & Shires Association of NSW- Local Agenda Magazine

Council has featured in a two page article in the September 2005 edition of the **Local Agenda Magazine**. This publication is the official magazine of the Local Government & Shires Association and has wide spread distribution. The article has been prepared and presented as a result of the A. R. Bluett Award and recognises many positive aspects of Council's operations.

4.2.3 Bourke & Wills Museum – Indigenous Cultural Centre Menindee.

Council has been advised of a proposal to establish a Bourke & Wills Museum incorporating an Indigenous Cultural Centre at Menindee. The principals of the project are Mr Roger Collins and Mr Paddy McHugh and the Menindee Technology Centre will initially act as the auspice body.

It is anticipated a non profit Trust titled "The Bourke & Wills Cultural Trust would be established comprising a nine person Board of Directors to guide and implement the project with all funds managed and distributed accordingly by the Trust.

The concept of a major interpretive museum celebrating the adventures of explorers Bourke & Wills certainly has merit and there is a high degree of optimistic enthusiasm by the proponents. Nevertheless it is an extremely ambitious project that will require major funding. Until such time as an appropriate and robust business plan estimated to cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000 is produced it is recommended that Council keep a "watching brief" only and provide in kind support only. The next meeting will be held on the 22nd October 2005 at the Menindee Community Hall.

RECOMMENDATION ***For Council Information***

4.3 Disclosures Of Pecuniary Interests

Section 449(3) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires that Council Members and Designated Persons must complete and lodge with the General Manager, within 3 months after becoming a Councillor or designated person, a Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and other matters and at least annually thereafter. The Disclosure is to be prepared as prescribed by Part 5A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 1999.

The following returns have been registered and tabled in accordance with Section 450A of the Local Government Act 1993.

Nothing in this section prevents a Councillor or designated person from lodging more than one return in any year.

- **Councillor Clive Linnett**
- **Councillor Graham Wellings**
- **Councillor Moya Reid**
- **Councillor Barbara MacMillan**
- **Councillor Paul Brown**
- **Councillor Rick Doyle**
- **Councillor Mike Arandt**
- **Mr Bill O'Brien**
- **Mr Tim Hazell**
- **Mr Russell Bow**

Councillors and designated persons who have not completed the required returns are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

*Note: Returns have also been received from Mrs Sharon Hutch and Mrs Leeanne Ryan.

RECOMMEDATION

That Council formally note the lodgement of pecuniary interest returns for the year ended the 30th June 2005 by Councillors, General Manager and designated persons.

Disclosures were received from Councillors Fisher, Pease and Sullivan during the Council Meeting.

7-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council formally note the lodgement of pecuniary interest returns for the year ended the 30th June 2005 by Councillors, General Manager and designated persons.

MOTION CARRIED

4.4 Wilcannia Works Program – Community Development Employment Program

The current Wilcannia works program has effectively been wound up on the 23rd September 2005. It is widely acknowledged that this program produced outstanding results and could be the “model” for ongoing works programs across Shire towns within the River Towns. The program included the establishment of a Heritage Trail and Memorial Park.

As a result of a meeting with The Federal Minister for Multicultural Affairs John Cobb MP contact has been made with senior officers from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Department of Employment & Workplace Relations where discussions are continuing. Notwithstanding it is apparent there at present only extremely limited opportunities to continue this program under existing Government works programs

As a result it has been proposed that a works program be designed specific to conditions at Wilcannia which ultimately could become a “model” for the Western Division River Towns. This concept has been adopted by the Barwon Darling Alliance who will assist with future negotiations.

Corporate Utility, Country Energy previously committed \$3000 toward the program in return a Community Notice Board was constructed in the park by the program participants. The Managing Director of Country Energy Mr Craig Murray and other senior officers recently visited Wilcannia and commissioned the notice board and at the same time acknowledged the participants and the excellent outcomes of the program. Country Energy has further committed to contribute \$25,000 per year for three years to assist the development and implementation of an ongoing works program.

Further letters of support presented to the Minister for Employment & Workplace Relations The Hon Kevin Andrews MP and the Minister for Multicultural Affairs John Cobb MP for the program has been received from a group of Senior Anthropologists from Sydney University in addition, 28 members of the NSW National Trust signed a partition directed to the same Ministers

The General Manager will continue to pursue this matter with the Federal Member for Parkes, The Hon John Cobb MP.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Wilcannia works program report is received and noted and the actions of the General Manager are endorsed.

8-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Pease that the Wilcannia works program report is received and noted and the actions of the General Manager are endorsed.

MOTION CARRIED

4.5 New South Wales Rural Fire Service “Draft” Estimates 2006– 2007

The Rural Fire Fighting Fund “Draft” Estimates for 2006 - 2007 as discussed and adopted at the Fire Liaison Committee meeting held on the 19th September 2004.

2006 - 2007 Rural Fire Fighting Fund Estimates

CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

▪ Annual Maintenance and Repairs	\$67,500.00
▪ Fire Fighting Appliances	\$0.00
▪ Second Hand Tankers	\$81,200.00
▪ Brigade Stations	\$0.00
▪ Equipment	\$37,367.00
▪ Reimbursable items	\$44,000.00
▪ Personal Protection Equipment	\$8,000.00
▪ District Staff Estimate	\$54,997.00
▪ Sub Total	<u>\$299,100.00</u>
▪	
▪ 2005 – 2006 Estimate Total	\$285,064.00
▪ Wages (Estimate based on 2003 – 2004)	\$178,000.00
▪ Insurance and Program Charges (Estimate)	\$185,225.00
	Total
	<u>\$648,289.00</u>
▪ Council Contribution (13.3%)	<u>\$86,222.00</u>
▪ Reimbursement of 2005-06 Program Charges 13.3%	\$11,555.00
Estimated Council Contribution 2006-07	\$74,667.00

The Council contribution of program charges 13.3% is reimbursable in the following years estimate. The amount of \$12,000 is an outstanding reimbursement from the previous year and will be available upon confirmation of the allocation from the Rural Fire Service.

RECOMMENDATION

That the NSW Rural Fire Service Budget “Draft” Estimates for 2006 – 2007 as presented by Council’s Fire Liaison Committee be adopted

9-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Brown that the NSW Rural Fire Service Budget “Draft” Estimates for 2006 – 2007 as presented by Council’s Fire Liaison Committee be adopted

MOTION CARRIED

CR VAGG RECORDS AGAINST

4.6 Lower Murray Darling Catchment Authority

The Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority Chairman Mark King will address Council at the October 2005 regular meeting.

The NSW Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources have established thirteen Catchment Management Authorities across New South Wales.

The main objective is to improve economic performance, environmental sustainability and quality of life for communities across NSW through better land use and natural resource management supported by well timed, quality infrastructure.

Central Darling Shire currently encompasses three Catchment Management Authorities being:

- o **Western CMA**
- o **Lachlan CMA**
- o **Lower Murray Darling CMA**

RECOMMENDED

That the Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority report be received and noted.

Cr Linnett reported to Council that he represented Council on the Lachlan CMA.

10-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

4.7 Crown Lands Legislation Amendment Act 2005

The Crown Lands Legislation Amendment Act 2005 commenced in July 2005. Some of the significant changes introduced have implications for Local Government, particularly with respect to Council's role as:

- **Consent Authority**
- **Crown reserve trust manager**
- **Manager of schools of art and similar institutions**
- **Lessee of crown land**


Attached is a précis received from the department of Lands that sets out the background and an overview of the recently introduced Legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Crown Land Legislation Amendment Act 2005 report be received and noted.

11-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the Crown Land Legislation Amendment Act 2005 report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED



INFORMATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Crown Lands Legislation Amendment Act 2005

The *Crown Lands Legislation Amendment Act 2005* continues the important reform agenda for the management of Crown land in NSW. Crown land is a valuable public asset and it is essential that it is managed wisely to optimise environmental and socio-economic benefits to the State.

The legislative changes are wide ranging and have implications for local government as outlined below.

Councils as consent authorities

When any Crown land is sold, the Minister for Lands is able to impose restrictions and covenants to protect the environment and to prevent subdivision of land or the separate dealing of multiple lots that were previously contained in a single holding.

These covenants are not overridden by local environmental plans or other environmental planning instruments unless the Minister for Lands concurs. This protection also applies to agreements under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and the *Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001*.

Councils must not approve the subdivision of land that is the subject of a covenant preventing or restricting subdivision, except with the consent of the Minister for Lands.

Councils will need to ensure prior to development approval being issued that there are no covenants on the title that might affect the development application.

Councils will be provided with information, electronically through the Department of Lands' local government portal, on the properties that are affected by covenants under the Crown Lands Acts.

Councils as Crown reserve trust managers

Granting of leases

Local councils may now be authorised by the Minister for Lands to grant leases, licences and related easements over the Crown reserves they manage in certain circumstances without the need to obtain the Minister for Lands' consent to each individual instrument. This change will provide increased autonomy for councils and result in more streamlined and cost effective management practices for both State and local government.

Additional uses for reserves

There is now increased flexibility in the use of Crown reserves and the facilities that can be provided on them. Purposes additional to the existing public purpose of the reserve can be authorised by a plan of management or, in certain circumstances, by the Minister directly. The new purposes generally need to be compatible with or ancillary to the existing purpose, consistent with the principles of Crown land management and in the public interest.

Management Committees

A reserve trust may now delegate (with the Minister for Lands' consent) any of its functions to a management committee, organisation, group or individual. A management committee could fulfil a similar role to that of committees established under the Local Government Act and could assist with the day-to-day operations of a reserve undertaking such activities as landcare, painting and collection of fees.

More than one reserve manager

Crown reserves can now be managed by more than one manager, with the different management responsibilities being determined on either a geographical or functional basis. This will provide increased flexibility in

establishing the most appropriate management structure for reserves.

Trust reporting and performance criteria

The Minister may require reserve trust managers to report on their performance in managing reserves. The matters to be reported on can be prescribed in the Regulations (as is currently the case) or by a notice in writing to a reserve trust.

Set term for corporate trusts

Until now, corporate trust managers (including councils) have been appointed for an indefinite period. In line with other reserve trust managers, corporate trust managers can now be appointed for a set term, which can be extended at any time by a notice in the Gazette.

Ministerial power to grant leases

The Minister can now, in consultation with the reserve trust or other relevant Minister, grant leases, licences, permits, easements and rights of way over Crown reserves. Funds received may be transferred to the reserve trust.

As an example, these changes will enable the Minister to issue leases or licences with consistent terms and conditions to infrastructure providers across an industry without the need to excise the land from the existing reserve.

The Minister for Lands may assume responsibility for a reserve

If no reserve trust is formally appointed, the management of many reserves (eg. reserves for public recreation) devolves to local government. The Minister for Lands may now assume responsibility, if required, for one or more of these reserves by a notice in the Gazette. This may be on a temporary basis while some particular activity is occurring and, if this is the case, the Gazetted notice may be revoked at any time and management will then return to the local council.

Councils as managers of schools of arts of arts

Trustees responsible for schools of arts or other similar institutes can now apply to transfer the ownership and management of the institute to local or State government, for management for community purposes. This has the potential to reduce the liability that many trustees may now face, provide improved manage-

ment of these facilities and provide better services to the community

Where an institute's land is freehold and the trustees wish to transfer the asset to the local council, the current trustees can agree with the local council on an appropriate future use of the institute's land and buildings which is compatible with the needs of the local community.

Councils as lessees of Crown land

Rent rebates will now be available to local councils that provide facilities such as jetties and wharves for the community without charge, as well as to water access only residents. Rebates for eligible pensioners and community service, sporting and recreational organisations are retained.

In keeping with the principle that rents for Crown land should be at the market rate, rents for most licences (as well as leases) may be subject to redetermination to market rent (generally on a three year basis) and CPI adjustment. The Minister for Lands may adopt IPART recommendations in redetermining rents.

The period of grace before interest is charged on overdue payments has been reduced to 28 days to better align with current commercial practice.

Contact Details

State Lands
Department of Lands
Head Office
1 Prince Albert Road
Queens Square
SYDNEY NSW 2000

T 61 2 8238 7138

F 61 2 8238 7130

E meta.lands@lands.nsw.gov.au

www.lands.nsw.gov.au

© September 2005 NSW Department of Lands (5)

4.8 State Emergency Service – Menindee SES Unit

An opportunity has been presented by the State Emergency Service to update the current State Emergency Services vehicle at Menindee. An appropriate truck, a Mitsubishi Canter 4x4 that has travelled less than 40,000 has become available from the Wollongong City Council at a cost of \$15,000. According to the Divisional Controller, this vehicle is well suited to meet the operational requirements of the Menindee SES Unit.

Council currently has a budget allocation of \$7,000 for 2005 – 2006 the remaining funds required could be made available by the sale of an existing vehicle. The purchase of the Mitsubishi Canter would enable the Isuzu NPR 300, currently at Menindee, to be transferred to the Wilcannia SES Unit and their existing truck to be sold with all monies to be retained by Council. The Wilcannia SES Unit believe the value of their current vehicle to be in excess of \$10,000.

These vehicles will improve the operational efficiency of the State Emergency Service within Central Darling Shire communities of Menindee and Wilcannia. It is therefore recommended that Council purchase the Mitsubishi Canter 4x4 Truck from Wollongong City Council for the cost of \$15,000 subject to all monies received from the sale of the Wilcannia SES Units vehicle being returned to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council that Council purchase the Mitsubishi Canter 4x4 Truck from Wollongong City Council for the cost of \$15,000 subject to all monies received from the sale of the Wilcannia SES Units vehicle to be returned to Council

12-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings hat Council purchase the Mitsubishi Canter 4x4 Truck from Wollongong City Council for the cost of \$15,000 subject to all monies received from the sale of the Wilcannia SES Units vehicle to be returned to Council

MOTION CARRIED

The General Manager requested an item contained in the Confidential Section of the meeting be transferred into the open meeting. This item was part of a larger Report that was required to be in the Confidential Section, but as the larger part was withdrawn owing to changes in Legislation, the MoU still remaining can be discussed in the Open Meeting.

13-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Central Darling Shire Coucil-Country Energy Memorandum of Understanding report be taken from the Confidential Section of the meeting and put into the Ordinary Meeting

MOTION CARRIED

4.9 Central Darling Shire Council – Country Energy: Memorandum of Understanding

Background

In the preparation of the funding submission, Council resolved to enter into partnership discussions with Country Energy and develop a Memorandum of Understanding (or Head of Agreement) for Council's consideration. It was recommended a partnership with the water & energy utility Country Energy would serve the best interests of the Shire as Country Energy being the water supplier for Menindee. It was further considered a partnership of this nature would provide considerable expertise to the project and greatly enhance the overall bid. Resolution 17-9-05 at the September 2005 Council meeting recommended that Council seek legal advice on obligations under the Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Country Energy, if legal advice is complimentary then the memorandum to be signed.

Advice has been sought from Council's solicitors and some minor changes have been made to the proposed MoU accordingly to reflect the nature of the "understanding" that exists between the parties. An appropriate Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been prepared and it is recommended Council sign this Memorandum.

Council will note that the above project will eventually involve many aspects of technical detail, contractual undertakings in relation to water services that are to be upgraded and delivered, funding agreements with various levels of government and other major stakeholders and so forth. As such it will involve major undertakings that will crystallise in detail as the preliminary stages of project development unfold.

The proposed MoU represents the basis upon which Central Darling Shire Council and Country Energy intend to proceed in implementing the full development of the project.

"DRAFT"

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This document is not intended to be legally binding upon the parties nor be enforceable by or against any of them.

Purpose

- This Memorandum sets out the key principles agreed between the parties (Country Energy, and Central Darling Shire Council to be known as "The Joint Venturers") for the development of a mutually beneficial business association as a joint venture, specifically the development of an Integrated Water Cycle Management Project and funding submission to the National Water Initiative for the Central Darling and Far West region.

Aims of the Memorandum

- To clarify the financial and commercial arrangements arising from the involvement of the parties.

- To establish an agreed format for remuneration based on services provided by other parties.
- To capture the spirit and intent of discussions held to date between the parties and to establish a clear framework for the future development of a mutually beneficial joint venture arrangement between the parties.

Scope of Activities

- Develop the parameters for completion of the bid process
- Management of stakeholders and potential funding supporters
- Representation of The Joint Venturers development activities
- Representation of The Joint Venturers for funding activities

Specific Activities

- Refer to Project plan attached
- Actively contribute to the marketing and development of the The Joint Venturers and funding submissions
- Actively demonstrate and apply the agreed values of all parties in all dealings.
- Keep the respective parties informed about information relating to the development of the plan.

Commitment by all Parties

- All parties agreed that this is a business arrangement that is undertaken in good faith for the mutual benefit of all parties.
- The participants further agree to act honestly and diligently and to perform their obligations and commitments in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in this Memorandum.
- The participants agree to associate themselves with each other and enter into this Memorandum in order to form and engage in a joint venture to develop an integrated water management plan and submit a funding submission.
- Nothing contained in this Memorandum whether expressed or implied shall be read and construed so as to operate to place the participants in the relationship of a partnership AND IT IS HEREBY EXPRESSLY AGREED AND ACKNOWLEDGED by the participants that the relationship constituted by this Memorandum between the participants is that of a joint venture (and not a partnership or agency).
- Should issues arise from time to time that require discussion and/or clarification, all parties agree to use their best endeavours to resolve any such issues or to engage an independent third party.
- Further to this Memorandum a formal Joint Venture Agreement, detailing the arrangement and operational areas of the business, may follow to include the outcome of details outlined in this agreement.

Signatures and Period of Memorandum

This Memorandum shall operate for the period to conduct the integrated water management plan and scope of activities as set out in this Memorandum, and may be superseded by a Joint Venture Agreement. The period for this Memorandum is expected to take no more than 6 months from the date of signing, after which time this will be extended on the terms and conditions agreed between the parties at or before that time.

Signed: _____

Country Energy

Date: _/_/_

Signed: _____

Darling Shire Council

RECOMMENDATION

That Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Country Energy

14-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Country Energy

MOTION CARRIED

The Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am and resumed at 11:30 am

SECTION 5. DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

15-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett 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 - September 2005					
DATE	TIME PERIOD	INTEREST RATE	DUE DATE	TOTAL (\$)	
11am Call Account					
Commonwealth		5.45%		\$526,744.89	
Westpac		5.30%		\$1,300,000.00	
Floating Rate Notes					
Wollemi Trust	85 points over 3mth BBSW	6.64%	8-Oct-05	\$1,500,000.00	
-Managed by Westpac					
Commercial Bills					
Commonwealth	19-Aug-05	88	5.50%	17-Nov-05	\$300,012.00
Term Deposits					
L.G.F.S.	11-Jul-05	92	5.69%	10-Oct-05	\$500,000.00
(at a margin of 15points over BBSW)					
Total Investments as at 30th September 2005					
11 am Call Account				\$1,826,744.89	
Commercial Bills and Notes				\$1,800,012.00	
Term Deposits				\$500,000.00	
				\$4,126,756.89	

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.

16-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett 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 August is provided for information.

ITEM	ARREARS		LEVIES									
	ARREAR	INT ARREARS	RATES	WATER	DR SUPP	CR SUPP	INTEREST	RECEIPTS	WRITE-OFFS	GOVT SUB	OVER-PAYMENT	TOTAL
Wilcannia												
General	38,210.57	13,923.45	44,439.85	-	-	-	773.90	20,280.91	-	924.82	-	76,142.04
Special Rate	5,504.21	1,622.88	6,274.37	-	-	7.05	110.64	2,894.05	-	-	-	10,611.00
Water	98,946.02	28,244.65	151,380.00	-	-	105.00	1,975.73	69,270.36	-	1,443.75	-	209,727.29
Water-Filtered	8,498.93	8,555.79	-	-	-	-	170.71	165.85	-	-	-	17,059.58
Sewer	51,415.00	23,048.84	80,500.00	-	-	300.00	960.17	43,351.58	-	962.50	-	111,309.93
Garbage	29,248.94	9,540.95	53,390.00	-	-	-	560.76	27,958.76	-	1,402.50	-	63,379.39
Excess Water	110,494.41	13,150.14	-	34,276.80	-	4,380.00	1,281.57	43,891.83	54.23	-	-	110,876.86
Charge on Land	2,535.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,535.86
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2,801.23	-2,801.23
Overpayments Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-99.50	-99.50
GROUP TOTAL	344,853.94	98,086.70	335,984.22	34,276.80		4,792.05	5,833.48	207,813.34	54.23	4,733.57	-2,900.73	598,741.22
Ivanhoe												
General	23,230.68	6,414.65	24,997.81	-	-	-	478.99	9,193.16	-	1,417.79	-	44,511.18
Special Rate	6,104.73	1,676.60	6,241.57	-	-	-	125.67	2,338.69	-	-	-	11,809.88
Water	34,846.71	8,657.47	42,695.00	-	-	-	720.58	15,418.58	-	1,706.25	-	69,794.93
Water-Filtered	4,126.72	3,258.52	-	-	-	-	83.34	458.14	-	-	-	7,010.44
Garbage	20,084.77	5,031.04	35,670.00	-	-	180.00	404.45	15,707.62	-	2,047.50	-	43,255.14
Excess Water	35,242.34	8,638.81	-	52,740.60	-	-	686.05	39,902.12	-	-	-	57,405.68
Charge on Land	1,002.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,002.74
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-3,669.67	-3,669.67
GROUP TOTAL	124,638.69	33,677.09	109,604.38	52,740.60		180.00	2,499.08	83,018.31		5,171.54	-3,669.67	231,120.32
White Cliffs												
General	7,198.59	2,080.68	29,729.20	-	-	-	147.54	14,855.41	-	1,919.63	-	22,380.97
Special Rate	652.66	176.69	2,394.29	-	-	4.00	13.11	1,322.87	-	-	-	1,909.88
Water	17,138.85	2,685.94	78,800.00	-	-	1,100.00	351.44	39,530.51	-	2,012.50	-	56,333.22
Water-Filtered	2,176.12	2,176.43	-	-	-	-	44.53	210.47	-	-	-	4,186.61
Excess Water	15,946.32	192.42	-	10,094.70	-	95.70	112.89	10,803.57	1.39	-	-	15,445.67
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-117.03	-117.03
Overpayments Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-97.05	-97.05
GROUP TOTAL	43,112.54	7,312.16	110,923.49	10,094.70		1,199.70	669.51	66,722.83	1.39	3,932.13	-214.08	100,042.27
Menindee (Environs)												
General	36,177.12	11,459.60	73,973.60	-	-	-	750.49	32,049.44	-	4,134.48	-	86,176.89
Garbage	6,953.28	1,235.69	19,080.00	-	-	-	147.14	7,675.00	-	1,217.85	-	18,523.26
Charge on Land	943.76	-	-	-	229.24	-	-	66.70	-	-	-	1,106.30
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.09	-0.09
GROUP TOTAL	44,074.16	12,695.29	93,053.60		229.24		897.63	39,791.14		5,352.33	-0.09	105,806.36
Menindee												
General	31,015.28	5,734.82	49,773.41	-	460.45	458.45	642.13	19,779.36	-	3,099.65	-	64,288.63
Special Rate	4,913.00	1,006.60	5,855.51	-	70.54	72.54	99.92	2,751.77	-	-	-	9,121.26
Garbage	40,257.25	4,877.89	74,620.00	-	-	700.00	844.16	29,068.86	-	4,886.83	-	85,943.61
Charge on Land	596.92	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	596.92
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-466.71	-466.71
GROUP TOTAL	76,782.45	11,619.31	130,248.92		530.99	1,230.99	1,586.21	51,599.99		7,986.48	-466.71	159,483.71
Rural												
General	33,220.75	3,786.90	306,308.56	-	-	142.93	739.40	115,258.89	-	159.03	-	228,494.76
Water	-	4.97	2,125.00	-	-	255.00	0.55	361.89	-	-	-	1,513.63
Excess Water	1,811.40	6.45	-	294.00	-	-	10.75	1,413.60	-	-	-	709.00
Charge on Land	500.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500.62
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-142.93	-142.93
GROUP TOTAL	35,532.77	3,798.32	308,433.56	294.00		397.93	750.70	117,034.38		159.03	-142.93	231,075.08
Sundry Villages												
General	28.37	0.98	1,325.75	-	-	-	0.66	1,115.83	-	-	-	239.93
GROUP TOTAL	28.37	0.98	1,325.75				0.66	1,115.83				239.93
Sunset Strip												
General	7,652.59	1,086.55	55,378.15	-	-	-	147.73	26,945.54	-	2,598.11	-	34,721.37
Garbage	427.76	30.09	3,450.00	-	-	-	8.23	1,650.50	-	159.38	-	2,106.20
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-30.95	-30.95
GROUP TOTAL	8,080.35	1,116.64	58,828.15				155.96	28,596.04		2,757.49	-30.95	36,796.62
REPORT TOTAL												
TOTAL ALL RATE Cl	677,103.27	168,306.49	1,148,402.07	97,406.10	760.23	7,800.67	12,393.23	595,691.86	55.62	30,092.57	-7,425.16	1,463,305.51
General	176,733.95	44,487.63	585,926.33	-	460.45	601.38	3,680.84	239,478.54	-	14,253.51	-	556,955.77
Special Rate	17,174.60	4,482.77	20,765.74	-	70.54	83.59	349.34	9,307.38	-	-	-	33,452.02
Water	150,931.58	39,593.03	275,000.00	-	-	1,460.00	3,048.30	124,581.34	-	5,162.50	-	337,369.07
Water-Filtered	14,801.77	13,990.74	-	-	-	-	298.58	834.46	-	-	-	28,256.63
Sewer	51,415.00	23,048.84	80,500.00	-	-	300.00	960.17	43,351.58	-	962.50	-	111,309.93
Garbage	96,972.00	20,715.66	186,210.00	-	-	880.00	1,964.74	82,060.74	-	9,714.06	-	213,207.60
Excess Water	163,494.47	21,987.82	-	97,406.10	-	4,475.70	2,091.26	96,011.12	55.62	-	-	184,437.21
Charge on Land	5,579.90	-	-	-	229.24	-	-	66.70	-	-	-	5,742.44
Overpayments Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-7,228.61	-7,228.61
Overpayments Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-196.55	-196.55
TOTAL	677,103.27	168,306.49	1,148,402.07	97,406.10	760.23	7,800.67	12,393.23	595,691.86	55.62	30,092.57	-7,425.16	1,463,305.51

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rates Collections Report be received and adopted.

17-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the Rates Collections Report be received and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.3 Goods and Services Tax Certificate

The Department of Local Government has recently altered the requirements concerning compliance issues relating to the Goods and Services Tax. In previous years, Council's were required to have their compliance with the Goods and Services Tax legislation externally audited and this was typically carried out in conjunction with the audit of the Annual Financial Reports. From the 2004-2005 financial year this practice has been altered, with Council's now required to submit a Goods and Services Tax Certificate.

This certificate, signed by the Mayor, one Councillor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer certifies compliance with Section 114 of the Commonwealth Constitution and:

- Voluntary GST has been paid by Central Darling Shire Council for the period 1st July 2004 to 30th June 2005
- Adequate management arrangements and internal controls were in place to enable the Council to adequately account for its GST liabilities and recoup all GST input tax credits eligible to be claimed
- No GST non-compliance events by the Council were identified by or raised with the Australian Taxation Office

RECOMMENDATION

That Council sign the 2004-2005 Goods and Services Tax Certificate and affix the Council seal to appropriate documents for forwarding to the Department of Local Government.

18-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council sign the 2004-2005 Goods and Services Tax Certificate and affix the Council seal to appropriate documents for forwarding to the Department of Local Government.

MOTION CARRIED

5.4 Questions

At a recent meeting of Council a number of issues were raised and were taken on notice. These included:

- Boat ramp in Menindee – still being investigated.
- Interest accruals – still being investigated.
- Community Solutions Grant – a break up of the available funds as at the 30th June 2005 is as follows:

Department Sport and Recreation	\$ 50,000
Wilcannia Hall	\$ 7,445

Heritage Trail	\$ 22,936
Total	\$ 80,381

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report.

19-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Reid That Council receive and note this report regarding Questions and Issues taken on Notice

MOTION CARRIED

5.5 2004-2005 Annual Financial Reports

Section 413 (2) C of the Local Government Act, 1993, requires a Council to prepare an Annual Financial Report for each financial year. This report was presented to Council at the September meeting where it was formally resolved to present the report to the external auditor for audit. The external auditor has completed the audit certificates and has provided these to Council. While the Annual Financial Reports had not been sent to the Department of Local Government this is anticipated to be completed before the Council meeting. It is pleasing to note that this will be achieved well in advance of the legislative requirements and well before any previous years.

As a result of the final audit few changes were required and these have been factored into the Annual Financial Reports. The changes have little impact on the overall result and as such the financial analysis provided at the previous Council meeting is still valid.

Council is now required to formally adopt the Annual Financial Reports for the financial year 2004/2005 and set the Council meeting to publicly present the financial reports and the auditors report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the 2004/2005 Annual Financial Reports and that the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday the 15th November 2005 be the meeting to publicly present the Auditors report on the 2004/2005 Annual Financial Reports and public submissions regarding the Annual Financial Reports be invited

20-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council adopt the 2004/2005 Annual Financial Reports and that the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday the 15th November 2005 be the meeting to publicly present the Auditors report on the 2004/2005 Annual Financial Reports and public submissions regarding the Annual Financial Reports and Mr Jeff Shanks from Alan Morse & Co be invited to attend the meeting to address Council

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 6. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

21-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Fisher that the Director of Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.

MOTION CARRIED

6.1 Activity Report September 2005

Staff meeting 6 October 2005

6.1.1 Staff

Robert Stewart commenced 10 October as Works Engineer on a 6 month temporary term. Robert spent three months in Council's Engineering Department in 2003.

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	Enquiries, Supervision	
Works Programme	Document 2005/2006 Programme, including heavy patching and reseals	0 %
SR 9	Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for Paroo crossing	20 %
<u>Contract Administration Engineer</u>		
State Roads SMC	Administer	
State Roads SMIC	Works Proposals submitted	3
	Works Orders received	3
	Inspection Maintenance Program – Implementation	85%
<u>Administration Officer</u>		
Office	Engineering Enquires, filing, correspondence	

6.1.3 Depots

Replacement signs shed being constructed from materials salvaged from old termite affected shed

6.1.4 Plant

Quotations being sought for replacement skid steer, Menindee

6.1.5 **Training**

Training planned

Senior First Aid, two day training 24 & 25 October, refresher 26 October

6.1.6 **Water Supplies**

Wilcannia

Satisfactory operation

White Cliffs

Satisfactory operation

Ivanhoe

New chlorine meter ordered

6.1.7 **Sewerage**

Satisfactory operation

6.1.8 **Transport & Communication**

General

Signs maintenance ongoing

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

Road	Activity	Comments
SH 8	Routine maintenance (SIMC). Patching edge break	Ongoing In progress
SH21	Routine maintenance (SIMC) Maintenance grade Shoulder Grade Spraying weeds in pavement Shoulder slashing	Ongoing. 30kms re-graded In progress In progress completed

Regional Roads

Road	Activity	Comments
MR66 Broken Hill to MR68	Nil	
MR67 Ivanhoe to Balranald	Nil	
MR 68A Wilcannia To Tilpa	Nil	
MR68B Wilcannia to Menindee	Tar patching	In progress
MR68C Menindee to Pooncarie	Maintenance grade	In progress
MR80 Mossgiel to Hillston	Nil	
MR 416 Ivanhoe to Cobar	Grid replacement Culvert repairs	Morningside/Wilga Valley boundary Wilga Valley
MR428 White Cliffs toTibooburra	Nil	
MR 433 Ivanhoe to Menindee	Maintenance grade	completed

Road	Activity	Comments
MR435 Wilcannia to White Cliffs	Shoulder slashing	In progress

Local Roads

Road	Activity	Comments
SR1 Wilcannia-Tilpa East side	Maintenance grade	Completed
SR10 Wilcannia – M'dee East side	Maintenance grade	Completed
SR11 M'dee - Pooncarie	Maintenance grade	Completed
SR14 Terawinya - Coolaminny	Maintenance grade	Completed
SR23 M'dee Irrigation	Maintenance grade	Completed
SR37 M'dee Racecourse	Maintenance grade	Completed

Town Streets

Town	Activity	Comments
Wilcannia	Routine	
Ivanhoe	Routine	
Menindee	Maintenance grade unsealed and environs	Completed
White Cliffs	Routine	
Tilpa	Routine	

6.1.9 Aerodromes Wilcannia

Slashed and mowed

Ivanhoe

Slashed

Menindee

Routine

White Cliffs

Routine

Tilpa

Linemarkings painted

Emmdale

Slashed and holes repaired

6.1.10 Next meeting

8.30am Tuesday 1 November 2005, meeting room, Engineering Office

RECOMMENDATION

That the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted

The Director of Engineering Services informed Council that a grader will be working along the Trida Roads in the next couple of weeks.

Cr Reid asked when the sealing completion of Budgie Street will happen.

The Director of Engineering Services said in the first half of next year.

Cr Sullivan asked if the Barrier Highway shoulders could be slashed.

The Director of Engineering Services will attend.

Cr MacMillan thanked the Director of Engineering Services for the load of gravel that was put outside the drop-in centre.

Cr Vagg asked if the mitre drains could be cleaned more regularly.

The Director of Engineering Services has taken on notice.

***22-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded
Clr Brown that the Monthly Activity Report be
received and noted***

MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Information Items

6.2.1 Mount Manara Deviation

At the request of the RTA an estimate to improve the existing alignment where possible and bitumen seal the road in its current location has been prepared. This is due the environmental study finding a significant amount of aboriginal and archaeological artefacts along the proposed deviation route. Also Native Title land claims which include the proposed alignment have been lodged. It appears that to construct a new alignment around the mount could become very involved and that the RTA is pursuing an alternative. A copy of the environmental report has been received in draft form from the RTA and is available upon request.

6.2.2 Pooncarie Road – MR 68C

The RTA has called a meeting to inspect and evaluate the Pooncarie Road for reconstruction to a sealed surface. Assembly will be in Menindee at 9.30am on Thursday 20 October, interested Councillors are welcome to attend.

6.2.3 Boat Ramp – Menindee

As a result of an inspection of various possible sites for a boat ramp, the most suitable seems to be, as suggested, near the Ivanhoe Road intersection. Further investigation is needed to assess whether the site has sufficient room to construct a ramp with sufficient access at this location. A more detailed report with a cost estimate will be presented to the November meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's Information

SECTION 7. ACTING MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

23-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the Manager of Environmental Services Report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

7.1 Building Legislation Amendment (Smoke Alarms) Act 2005

The NSW Government Department of Planning has advised Council that new legislation is proposed to commence on the 1st May, 2006. Under this legislation, all dwellings and places in which persons sleep will be required to be fitted with smoke alarms. All such alarms will be required to be serviced on a regular basis, most probably annually. The details of the requirements are to be contained within the regulations which have not been finalized as yet.

Full details of the proposed legislation are as yet unavailable; however certain general requirements are clear. Someone will need to either check all installations, or collect documentation with regard to certification of the smoke alarms for each and every premise.

It is clear that no new organisation is to be set up to carry out this function and as such the only likely candidates for this role are the NSW Fire Brigade and/ or Local Government. As Councils are presently responsible for essential services in all premises other than dwellings, it is logical to assume that this role will be placed upon Councils. No details are available as to the level of inspection or mechanisms for cost recovery.

Whilst this move is seen as a commendable and highly beneficial step towards protecting the community, there does not appear to have been much consultation with Councils in regard to the imposition on existing staff resources.

Should Council be required to undertake this role, it would result in a minimum of 1020 inspections (based on a figure of 85% of known rateable properties being occupied) and being inspected annually.

This could require the services of (1) one staff member for a period of 6 months minimum per annum.

It is possible that this role could be undertaken by existing staff, however other functions would undoubtedly suffer as a result. Further updates will be provided as they become available.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council request further information as to the role of Council and proposed remuneration of Council for undertaking this role.

That should Council not be adequately recompensed for undertaking this role, Council should object to the imposition of this role on Local Government.

24-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council request further information as to the role of Council and proposed remuneration of Council for undertaking this role.

That should Council not be adequately recompensed for undertaking this role, Council should object to the imposition of this role on Local Government.

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 8. MANAGER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

25-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Manager of Community Development's report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

8.1 On-Line Community Directory

Central Darling Shire Council's website provides an ideal location for organisations and businesses to advertise the services that they provide to residents and visitors to the area.

Within our website we have a community directory where organisations and businesses that provide goods and services within the Shire can each create and modify a page dedicated to them. Each page of the directory can contain a digital image and text to describe the organisation.

On 10th, 11th and 12th October, training for community members will take place in Menindee, Ivanhoe, Wilcannia and White Cliffs. This training has been funded with a grant received from Local-e. This training will provide community members with the skills to create and edit their own page of our community directory. No prior experience is necessary to be able to participate. For those community members without access to the internet, provision will be made for a council staff member to assist with the preparation of their directory page.

It is anticipated that the end result will be a comprehensive directory of goods and service provision within Central Darling Shire Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the On-Line Community Directory report be received and noted.

26-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Brown that the On-Line Community Directory report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.2 Menindee Fun Day

The Menindee Fun Day is to be held on the 5th November 2005. This will be the third such event and past years events have been declared successes. The Fun Day is an event where the Health Service has the opportunity to promote health issues that are of concern to our community. The Fun Day comprises of displays of various health issues and healthy lifestyle alternatives in a fun and casual atmosphere. The Health Service also takes the opportunity on the Fun Day to survey the community on the health status of the community, efficacy of existing programmes and requests for particular services.

A request has been received from the Menindee Health Service to provide funding for the Menindee Fun Day. They have requested \$2000.00 plus in-kind support in the form of use of the oval, lighting and extra bins.

The Menindee Health Service are aware that further requests for funding must be received in the advertised round of financial assistance grants and they apologise for the lateness of this request.

RECOMMENDATION

That due to allocated budget constraints Council refuse the request by Menindee Health Service for funding.

27-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Vagg that due to allocated budget constraints Council refuse the request by Menindee Health Service for funding.

MOTION CARRIED

CR DOYLE RECORDS AGAINST

8.3 Barwon Darling Alliance Traineeships

The Barwon Darling Alliance was born out of a desire of the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly and the participating Shire Councils to address their common regional concerns regarding high unemployment and serious quality of life issues.

Mission

The mission of the Barwon Darling Alliance is to combine its member's resources to support and maintain sustainable economic growth and employment in the region and to develop positively the social capital and the lifestyle and culture of its people

Participating Organisations

Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly
Central Darling Shire Council
Bourke Shire Council
Walgett Shire Council
Coonamble Shire Council
Brewarrina Shire Council

Access Group Training Involvement

Access Group Training is currently in the third funded period, after successfully placing the required number of Indigenous trainees into Traineeships.

Funded by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Access Group Training places the Traineeship with a "Host" employer. AGT is the actual employer, we look after complete administration of the traineeship including:-

Process employees wages
PAYG tax
Monitor the award/wage

Superannuation
Workers Compensation
Annual and sick leave
Industrial issues
Provide immediate mentor support for the employer and trainee

The traineeships are of a 12 month duration and involves on the job training for retail, hospitality, agriculture, tourism and administration.

A wage assistance is provided to the “host” employer during the 12 months.

Permanent employment is again the primary aim with this project. Besides learning job skills, there is an increase in self confidence, self esteem and an improvement in the trainee’s life skills. More importantly – creating role models for younger people to follow.

Traineeships are available in:-

- Certificate II & III Retail Operations
- Certificate II, III Business
- Certificate II & III Financial Services
- Certificate III in Community Services (Aged Care Work)
- Certificate III in Community Services (Children’s Services)
- Certificate III in Home and Community Care
- Certificate II & III Hospitality Operations
- Certificate II & III Asset Maintenance (Cleaning Operations)
- Certificate II & III Transport & Distribution (Warehousing)
- Certificate II & III Transport & Distribution (Road Transport)
- Certificate II Automotive Services (Tyre Fitting/Wheel Alignment)
- Certificate II Automotive (Sales – Service Station Operations)
- Certificate II Information Technology
- Certificate III Information Technology (General)
- Certificate II Meat Processing (Abattoirs)
- Certificate II Meat Processing (Meat Retailing)
- Certificate III Meat Processing (Boning)
- Certificate III Meat Processing (Slaughtering)
- Certificate II & III Horticulture
- Certificate II & III Agriculture
- Certificate III Agriculture (Rural Merchandising)
- Certificate II General Construction
- Certificate III in Civil Construction (Plant)
- Certificate III Civil Construction (Road Construction & Maintenance)

Expectations of Trainees and Employees

Traineeships afford employees the opportunity of gaining Nationally Recognised Credentials while employed in a specific workplace. For all traineeships there is a package of Training Material and Support Material (if required) issued. Access Group Training as the Registered Training Organisation will provide the Training Package and Support Material and work with the employer and trainee to ensure successful outcomes. All packages are modular based and provide a formal structure to training in specific competencies.

All training is on-the-job and is to be provided by the employer where this is applicable. It is expected that both the trainee and the employer should be thoroughly familiar with the Training Package, the material it contains and the need to demonstrate achievement of the competencies.

Unlike traditional classroom type situations which tend to focus on what you have learnt, generally in an examination situation, competency based training is about skills being able to be demonstrated in a range of situations.

Access Group Training will provide:

- o Workplace Assessment and Monitoring Visits
- o Mentoring Support

Workplace visits will seek evidence to confirm achievement of the competencies. This may entail:

- o Practical demonstration and observation
- o Viewing of document/logbooks
- o Oral/written questioning
- o Interview with trainee and/or employer/supervisor
- o Some small project/assignment
- o Discussion
- o Samples of work completed
- o Performance checklist

Assessors are bound by a Code of Practice to ensure that assessments are valid, reliable, flexible and fair.

The collecting of evidence of achievement of a competency will seek to ensure that the evidence is measurable, sufficient, current and authentic. For different competencies differing amounts and types of evidence may be required. Because of its flexibility, different learning strategies and learning environments that take into account differences in learning styles, interests, needs and opportunities can be accommodated. More than one competency may be assessed at one given time. The assessor may often work in partnership with the employer/supervisor.

Appointments will be made for all assessment visits and seek the least disruption to normal workplace practice. Assessment visits will be kept as short as possible whilst still meeting the needs of the traineeship.

Trainees should self assess in conjunction with the employer/supervisor prior to visits by the workplace assessor to ensure thorough knowledge of the competencies and ability to demonstrate the competency.

If there are gaps in the trainee's knowledge in specific competency areas a written task may be assigned. An assessor will assess completion of this task for competency on a subsequent visit.

Mentoring support will be provided to overcome the problems or difficulties encountered to ensure successful completion of the traineeship.

For trainees there is an expectation that:

- You will attend work at all times required
- You will dress appropriately for the workplace in accordance with the employers wishes
- If you are unable to attend work through illness or other reasons you will notify the employer as early as possible
- You not have friends or family members visit you during your working hours
- You use the opportunity afforded to you in this traineeship to your best advantage

All support and assistance by trainees and employers will be provided by Access Group Training.

Information for Central Darling Shire Employers

Trainees may be shared between more than one host employer either on a weekly or seasonal basis. For example, two employers may share one trainee and split 2 days per week at one job site, 3 days per week at the other or for seasonal work, the trainee may complete 6 months at one job site and 6 months at another provided that a full 12 month period is covered.

The following table is an example of the costs to employers. Indigenous trainees are subsidised by Barwon Darling Alliance and the weekly costs to employers are seen in the column titled "BDA Host Cost". For non-indigenous trainees, the weekly costs are seen in the column titled "Actual Costs".

Any interested host employers are to contact the Manager of Community Development with their requirements.

This information will be placed in the next edition of Council's newsletter informing all possible employers in the region.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's information.

BARWON DARLING ALLIANCE III - HOST EMPLOYER

NEW ENTRANT

PAYMENT TABLE AS AT 1 MARCH 2005

\$/WEEK EXCLUDING GST

NE

Please note that a compulsory \$358 Enrolment fee applies to all Trainees from 1/1/04, however indigenous Trainees are exempt

SKILL LEVEL A - ADMIN, IT, GEN CONST	Highest Year of Completed Schooling								
	Year 10			Year 11			Year 12		
	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost
School Leaver	\$ 196	\$ 242	\$ 182	\$ 235	\$ 287	\$ 227	\$ 284	\$ 344	\$ 284
(State Training Award)	\$ 215	\$ 264	\$ 204						
Plus 1 year out of school	\$ 235	\$ 287	\$ 227	\$ 284	\$ 344	\$ 284	\$ 330	\$ 397	\$ 337
Plus 2 years out of school	\$ 284	\$ 344	\$ 284	\$ 330	\$ 397	\$ 337	\$ 384	\$ 459	\$ 399
Plus 3 years out of school	\$ 330	\$ 397	\$ 337	\$ 384	\$ 459	\$ 399	\$ 439	\$ 523	\$ 463
Plus 4 years out of school	\$ 384	\$ 459	\$ 399	\$ 439	\$ 523	\$ 463			
Plus 5 or more years out of school	\$ 439	\$ 523	\$ 463						

SKILL LEVEL B - RETAIL, HOSPIT, W'HOUSE AUTOMOTIVE	Highest Year of Completed Schooling								
	Year 10			Year 11			Year 12		
	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost
School Leaver	\$ 196	\$ 242	\$ 182	\$ 235	\$ 287	\$ 227	\$ 274	\$ 332	\$ 272
Plus 1 year out of school	\$ 235	\$ 287	\$ 227	\$ 274	\$ 332	\$ 272	\$ 315	\$ 379	\$ 319
Plus 2 years out of school	\$ 274	\$ 332	\$ 272	\$ 315	\$ 379	\$ 319	\$ 370	\$ 443	\$ 383
Plus 3 years out of school	\$ 315	\$ 379	\$ 319	\$ 370	\$ 443	\$ 383	\$ 421	\$ 502	\$ 442
Plus 4 years out of school	\$ 370	\$ 443	\$ 383	\$ 421	\$ 502	\$ 442			
Plus 5 or more years out of school	\$ 421	\$ 502	\$ 442						

SKILL LEVEL C - AG, HORTICULTURE	Highest Year of Completed Schooling								
	Year 10			Year 11			Year 12		
	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost	Trainee	Actual Cost*	BDA Host Cost
School Leaver	\$ 196	\$ 242	\$ 182	\$ 235	\$ 287	\$ 227	\$ 268	\$ 325	\$ 265
Plus 1 year out of school	\$ 235	\$ 287	\$ 227	\$ 268	\$ 325	\$ 265	\$ 301	\$ 363	\$ 303
Plus 2 years out of school	\$ 268	\$ 325	\$ 265	\$ 301	\$ 363	\$ 303	\$ 337	\$ 405	\$ 345
Plus 3 years out of school	\$ 301	\$ 363	\$ 303	\$ 337	\$ 405	\$ 345	\$ 376	\$ 450	\$ 390
Plus 4 years out of school	\$ 337	\$ 405	\$ 345	\$ 376	\$ 450	\$ 390			
Plus 5 or more years out of school	\$ 376	\$ 450	\$ 390						

* Actual cost of Trainee includes wages, admin, superannuation, annual leave loading & workers compensation

SECTION 9. RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Correspondence for Council Information be received and noted

***28-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded
Clr Pease that the Correspondence for Council
Information be received and noted***

MOTION CARRIED

9.1 Media Releases

Date	Sender	Contents
10/10/2005	Mark Vaile	Workplace Reforms Critical to National Interest - Vaile
7/10/2005	NSW Department of Primary Industries	Warm Weather Forecasts Prompt Calls for Locust Lookout Across State
7/10/2005	NSW Department of Primary Industries	Apply today for the Rural Women's Award
6/10/2005	NSW Department of Primary Industries	Steady Rain Helps De-Stress Pastures in Parts, But Management has Big Role Too
6/10/2005	NSW Department of Primary Industries	Geologists Study Ancient Bourke Rocks for New Mineral Deposits
6/10/2005	Shires Association of NSW - Sydney	More than Premier Promises Needed to Seal Good Relations
6/10/2005	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Muslim Community Reference Group Meeting with the Government
4/10/2005	Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	Ombudsman's Report: No Likely Threat to Local Government Rating Income
2/10/2005	John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes	Bali Bombings a Brutal Attack on Tourists
26/9/2005	State Council of Rural Lands Protection Board	Cattle Tags: New Cap on Fee for Special Identifiers
25/9/2005	The Hon. Kerry Hickey MP, Minister for Local Government	Minister Launches Major Local Govt Reform Initiative
9/9/2005	Local Government Association of NSW	President's View on Elected Mayors her own, Not LGA Policy

9.2 Circular/Newsletters

Sender	Date	Contents
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	27/9/2005	Circular No. 05-56 - Planning for the potential impact of an ageing population on Local Government
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	7/10/2005	Local Government Weekly - Issue 40/05
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	30/9/2005	Local Government Weekly - Issue 39/05
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	27/9/2005	Circular No. 05-55 - Domestic Waste Management and Recycling Services Return

Sender	Date	Contents
Local Government (NSW Dept Of)	23/9/2005	Circular No. 05-53 - Forms of Investment - Ministers Order
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	23/9/2005	Local Government Weekly - Issue 38/05
Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW	16/9/2005	Local Government Weekly - Issue 37/05

9.3 Letters

Date	File No	Sender	Regarding
23/9/2005	013-03 - 1/11P	Far Western Regional Development Board	Congratulations from the Far Western Regional Development Board for receiving the A.R. Bluett Memorial Award
1/9/2005	042-01 - 1/15P	Country Energy	Advising Council of a new Traineeship position based in Menindee for a Water Trainee
4/10/2005	013-03 - 1/12P	The AR Bluett Memorial Trust	Thanking the GM for his hospitality on a well-organised and interesting weekend on the occasion of the Bluett Presentation.
10/10/2005	073-03 - 1/52	Cobb Highway Gypsum	Thanking Council for a "job well done" on grading of the road between Ivanhoe and the Baden Park turnoff.

SECTION 10. THE RECEPTION OF REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

10.1 Staff Consultative Committee**Page 40*****RECOMMENDATION***

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

29-10-05 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 Staff Consultative Committee

MOTION CARRIED**10.2 Occupational Health and Safety Committee****Page 40-42*****RECOMMENDATION***

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

30-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Vagg that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee

MOTION CARRIED**10.3 Wilcannia Cemetery Committee****Page 42*****RECOMMENDATION***

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

31-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Wilcannia Cemetery Committee

MOTION CARRIED

10.1 Staff Consultative Committee Minutes – 13th September 2005

Staff Consultative Committee held on Tuesday 13th September 2005 at the Wilcannia Engineering Depot – Commencing at 9.53am.

Present:

Russell Bow (Chairman), Cr Robert Vagg, Tim Hazel, , Rod Dillon, Trevor Jones, Mick Williams, Kristy Karkoe

Apologies:

Mayor Peter Sullivan, Kylie Smith, Vera Pearson, Terry Dray

Confirmation of minutes from last meeting: 7th June 2005

The minutes of the June meeting were confirmed.

Moved: Tim Hazel *Seconded:* Rod Dillon

Business Arising:

Staff Payslips

Still to be resolved.

Salary System

The review of the Council Salary System is still under consideration.

General Business:

Election of new Representative, Kristy Karkoe was elected as the new representative for the Staff Consultative Committee.

Higher Grading for Employees acting in a higher position, Russell Bow raised with the Committee the issue regarding higher grading for employees acting in a higher position.

Russell pointed out that many employees that temporarily act in a higher position are not being subsidised for their extra duties that are taken on in the position.

A data sheet was passed on to members of the committee for their opinion on introducing a Higher Grading Allowance based on a 3% or 4% increase.

A discussion took place amongst members and it was agreed that a 4% per grade increase in wages be paid to staff as a weekly allowance, being that the duration of the acting position is a minimum of two days.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 13th December 2005

Meeting Closed 10:19am

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Central Darling Shire Council Staff Consultative Committee Meeting be adopted.

10.2 OH&S Committee Minutes – 13th September 2005-10-1

Minutes of the Central Darling Shire Council Occupational Health and Safety Committee held at the Council Chambers, commencing at 10:30am on Tuesday 13th September 2005.

Present:

Rod Dillon (Chairman), Russell Bow, Tim Hazell, Cr Vagg, Mick Williams, Trevor Jones, Craig Schneider

Apologies:

Mayor Peter Sullivan

Confirmation of Minutes: 7th June 2005

The Minutes of the June Meeting were accepted.

Moved: Tim Hazell

Seconded: Mick Williams

Business Arising from Previous Meeting:

- **Safety Videos**, The Safety Videos were collected and reviewed, Mick Williams and Russell Bow suggested that Council purchase two Safety DVDs and one video.
- **Breathing Apparatus Device for Filtration Plants**, The Breathing Apparatuses have been purchased and received, one has been allocated to White Cliffs and the other to Ivanhoe.
- **Risk Management**, Minor works at the pool has been completed.
- **Blood Alcohol Testing**, Russell Bow is to obtain an electronic copy of the Policy so that it can be modified and adapted to suit Council's Policy.
Tim Hazell suggested that Russell find out the time frame on getting back alcohol and drug test results from the hospital, and also look into how reliable and accurate the results will be.

Training Completed Since Last Meeting:

- Craig Schneider has completed his OH&S training.

General Business:

- **Workplace Safety Checklists**, The following Safety Checklists have been designed and completed;

* Filtration Plant	* Offices	*Reservoirs
* Depots	* Dams	* Pools

Copies of the checklist were passed on to members. The first set of Workplace Safety Checklists have been completed, and will now be performed quarterly.

- **Emergency Service Warning Signs**, All signs have arrived and each Depot has been issued with their appropriate signs.

The Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Ivanhoe & Menindee SES & Fire Brigade will be sent a copy of a diagram list, listing where all Chemicals and Flammables in the Shire Depots are stored.

- **Drugs and Alcohol at Work**, Mick Williams approached the Committee with concerns over the usage of Alcohol, drugs and medication.

Some employees have raised their concerns and thought the situation to be quiet dangerous to work with a particular employee.

This has become a problem with other staff members as they are now refusing to work with this employee due to the state he becomes in when the medication has not been taken correctly.

Next Meeting:

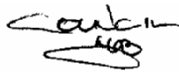
- Tuesday 13th September 2005

Meeting Closed at 12:10am

RECOMMENDATION

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

10.3 Wilcannia Cemetery Committee



28-38-2/81F

25
RECEIVED
21 SEP 2005

Minutes of the annual general meeting of the Wilcannia cemetery committee.

The A.G.M. of the Wilcannia cemetery committee was held at the cemetery on the 17-9-2005.

Present.

E. Fotopoulos, D.Evans, S.Evans, J.Pineo, T.Edwards,P.Edwards.

Apologies.

There were no apologies.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read out. No matters arising from these minutes.

General business.

Update on the application for funds under the Environmental grants scheme, hopefully we should know by the years end as to its success or not.

Matters raised yet again about the difficulty in getting work done at the cemetery.

Repeated requests for gravel in the "slop holes" have had no success. Also due to the recent rains, weeds have taken over. Virtually impossible for the few volunteers to be able to keep up with the work. Suggestion that another letter be written to council to try and have outdoor staff come down every now and again to mow and assist in the general clean-up of the cemetery. Due to the retirement of councilor Barb MacMillan coming up a suggestion was made for the committee to present her with a gift of appreciation for her help with our committee over the years. John Pineo advised that there was still \$100.00 left over from our old bank account which could be used for the purchase of a gift.

Election of office bearers. All current positions declared vacant.

Chairperson. Dulcie Evans.

Secretary. John Pineo

Committee. Tom Edwards, Shirley Evans, Emmas Fotopoulos, Phillis Edwards.

No further business. The meeting closed at 11.55am.

John Pineo

Secretary Wilcannia cemetery committee.

SECTION 11. DELEGATES REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Delegates Reports be received and noted

32-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Cr Vagg, Seconded Cr MacMillan that the Delegates Reports be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

11.1 Cr Clive Linnett – 61st National Conference & Annual General Meeting of the Murray Darling Association.

On Wednesday the 7th September, I Travelled to Dubbo to attend the 61st National Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Murray Darling Association.

Wednesday afternoon I attended a Board Meeting of the Association at the Dubbo City Council Chambers and that evening, a civic reception was held by the Council and all delegates to the conference were welcomed by Alan Smith, the Mayor of Dubbo.

On Thursday 8th September, I was joined by Cr Pease and we attended the Annual Conference which was held at the Dubbo RSL Club Theatre.

Motions presented and debated by various speakers were:

The State of the Murray-Darling Basin and how to improve the linkages within the Basin.

Water Reform for NSW

Darling demographics, demand & decision making.

The Positive Use of Flood Irrigation

The Desalination Plant for Whyalla

The Cotton industry in Australia and what impact

A Youth Vision for our Rivers

How does Local Government relate to and interact with the Community Advisory Committee of the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council

Improving Native Fish and Managing Carp

An Official Dinner was held that evening with Cr. Wally Mitchell as Guest Speaker.

On Friday, the Annual General Meeting was held with the normal procedures and there were various speakers on local issues within NSW such as Telstra, Country Connections and The Catchment Management Authority and its Direction with Local Government.

On conclusion, any Conference Motions were then dealt with and carried.

11.2 Cr Anthony Pease – 2005 LGSA Water Management Conference 1st & 2nd September 2005.

Points of interest and other observations by Cr Anthony Pease

Usual opening and welcoming ceremonies

The Hon. Mr. John Anderson MP being refreshingly candid since leaving his previous position, managing to avoid any of the 4 D's. (Dismissal, Demotion, Defamation & Death)

Narrabri and Moree had an annual turnover of around \$400M & \$700M respectively.

Australia is the second most heavy water user in the OECD.

Policy to be based on Science and Consultation; nor bureaucrats driven by the Government of the day, driven by popular ideology.

Water trading – the market to determine the best use of water.

National Water Commission - \$1.6B to Water Smart

Beijing in China – water table declining one metre per year.

Need for National approach to water management.

Cr Col Sullivan, Pres. Shires Assoc.

Need to restore the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program.

Problems with the separation of Water Licenses and Land – the present amendments for rating are not sufficient.

Best Practice Guidelines are generally inflexible and causes problems with some smaller councils – needs some built in exceptions for the Minister to act.

Brian Steffen

A short presentation on the Country Energy and CDSC joint bit for the Water Smart funding.

Ken Mathews, CEO Nat Water Commission

Allocating tradable water entitlements.

Reducing barriers to interstate water trade

Building better Water Management

Aust. Gov. Water Fund - \$2.0B over 6 years.

Challenges to Local Government are:

Participating in Water Sharing Plans

Responding to Water Trading

Dealing with the separation of Water and Land

Adopting NWI best practices, planning and management

Water Managers Forum – (opted for this rather than the junket tour)

Facilitated by Adrian Wells, in his usual capable manner.

Safety: The danger of electrocution of disconnecting house to mains pipes.

Water Leakage – submission for funding for 33 Councils - \$19.8M, approx. \$600K per Council – save 15ML water per year.

Water Pricing Workshop

Sam Samra, Snr. Mgr. Water Utility Performance, DEUS was one of the few brave souls that mentioned that Pricing was one of the more effective water management tools.

Guidelines: Usage Charges to be 50% for 2005, 60% for 2006 and 70% for 2007. Step increase to be at least 50% at 400KL. Guidelines for pricing only applicable to potable water at present.

Possibility of integrated Water/Sewerage Pricing – assuming that a proportion of water consumed, ends up in the waste water system. (problems in hot/arid climates)

100% Usage Charge as a demand management signal – encourages savings (problem maintaining utilities in wet seasons with low usage)

Councils can distribute dividends as chooses (dividends up to \$30 per connection)???

Bulk Charges for Unregulated Rivers to increase CPI + 10%

Water Quality Forum

Operator ability is crucial.

Supply of bottled water an alternative when there is a problem with treatment to potable water.

Extra Personal Observations

CDSC Towns have some of the highest usage charges – particularly in NSW, which is understandable considering our small and isolated populations. These charges could become greater when we try to meet future management guidelines without some dispensation or extra funding.

Orange has a usage 2 – tier usage charge of \$1.41 to \$2.80 per KL (which caused great consternation to the audience)

Young has a 2 – tier usage charge of \$1.25 - \$1.75 per KL, with the first tier of 50KL – 100KL, adjusted seasonally.

Some people pay up to \$1000 per KL, for bottled water.

The catch phrase mentioned most times in the conference was “Triple Bottom Line”.

Conclusion

Worth going to hear how other Councils handle similar problems with water management, some new problems and some novel solutions (to me). Always interesting to hear what the future may bring in water management issues and regulations. Without a doubt, a lot more responsibility will be pushed on to Local Government for water saving, recycling and storm water usage and control.

The papers from the 2005 conference will be available from the LGSA website at some stage:

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/site/policy/1000167/1000242.html>

SECTION 12. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Linnett

Asked the Director of Engineering Services if he was aware of the raw water cut early on Sunday morning.

The Director of Engineering Services said he was made aware afterwards, and procedures are to be altered to ensure that it does not happen again.

Cr Linnett also asked if Council Staff were aware of the pigs being held in town?

The General Manager said he will ask the Ranger to come to Ivanhoe and investigate.

Cr Sullivan

Cr Sullivan asked Cr Brown if he would make two letters available to all Councillors, both were sent to Cr Sullivan during his term as Mayor. One was regarding the General Manager and the Code of Conduct Committee, and the other was concerning the General Manager's Annual Review and the Review Panel. A copy of both letters was also requested by the General Manager.

Cr Brown said he will attend to the matter.

Cr Brown

Asked if there is to be a report on the Old Wilcannia Post Office at the November meeting.

The General Manager said there will be.

Cr Doyle

Asked again about the trains standing over the road on the Railway Crossing at Menindee.

The Director of Engineering Services said he will follow up his query with the Rail Network.

Cr Doyle also asked if Council were aware of a new power pole and line being constructed on Furnell Street. Has a DA been approved?

The Director of Engineering Services said he is aware of the new pole, there are no issues as it is a regular pole with a regular power supply. A DA is not required as the pole is constructed on the road reserve.

Cr Reid

Asked if a two week extension could be given for the Australia Day Awards nominations.

The Manager of Community Development said there will be no problem with granting an extension.

Cr Reid also mentioned that Vines Furniture One have not been to the Menindee Homes for the Aged to measure as expected.

The General Manager said Council's Maintenance Officer was there today, possibly Vines Furniture One are there too, he will investigate.

Cr Reid also asked if anything has been done about the Swimming Pool in Menindee. A Pool Attendant will need to be employed for this season.

The General Manager reported that the Manager of Environment Services will be returning to work on Monday 24th October, she will attend to the matter then.

Cr Reid asked if the house numbering in Menindee has been completed. The Director of Corporate Services said the Project Officer is currently required for other tasks. The matter will be attended to as soon as possible.

Cr MacMillan

Asked what developments have happened to the National Parks and Wildlife arrangement for the Old Wilcannia Post Office.

The General Manager said NPWS have committed to a 20 month lease arrangement for the Post Office section of the building, they are prepared to spend up to \$30,000 for displays, including Rural Fire Service, Outback Area Consultative Committee and youth workshops, this has been committed in writing. The Manager of Community Development is investigating Heritage Grants for the restoration of the accommodation section of the building.

Cr MacMillan asked if the Rural Transaction Centre in Wilcannia is up and running yet?

The General Manager reported to Council that tiling and gates still need to be completed out the front of the new building, inside is finished. The Manager of Community Development has relocated her office there, it is an advantage to have a senior staff presence in the building. Kylie Smith has been seconded to the River Towns Facilitator position and has an office in the centre. The Meeting Room out the back has already been well used; the Camera Workshops have utilized the room, and it is available for the Wilcannia Community Working Party if required.

Cr MacMillan asked if Westpac are likely to want to re-open a branch in Wilcannia and do away with the agency?

The Director of Corporate Services reported that a new 3 year contract has just been signed.

The General Manager indicated that discussions have been held with Bendigo Bank with the view of establishing a Community Bank within the Shire. The General Manager will make a report on this matter to the next meeting of Council.

Cr Vagg

Asked the Director of Engineering Services if he could do a costing of the emergency water supply to Ivanhoe.

The Director of Engineering Services will bring to next meeting.

Cr Linnett

Asked if Country Energy had got back to the General Manager with costs for the new power connections to Tilpa?

The General Manager said no, he has not received a reply.

Cr Linnett then read out a letter from the Regional Manager of Country Energy to Peter Black OAM MP stating that they will revise the costs because the existing line needs to be relocated off private property into the road reserve. This is good news for development in Tilpa.

33-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Pease that Council suspend Standing Orders to hear from Mr Mark King, Chairman of Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority

MOTION CARRIED

The Mayor welcomed Mr Mark King and Mr Paul Dixon from the Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority.

Mark thanked Council for the invitation to address them, and presented the MoU to Council. He said Point 2 means nothing more than what Council are currently doing. The CMA are not asking for anything more, but possible partnerships could arise.

Mark gave to each Councillor an information package and a detailed map of the CMA.

Mark also informed Council of an incentive for graziers who wish to sell their paddocks to allow the natural vegetation to re-grow. The CMA are willing to subsidise this venture for 3 years. Any Graziers within the Lower Murray Darling CMA area who wish to take advantage of this incentive need to apply to the CMA.

Mark then asked Councillors if they had any questions, which included:

- Does the landholder need to control vermin and weeds with the land lock-up scheme?

Yes, the funding will assist the landholder to do this.

- What relationship does the CMA have with South Australia in relation to giving them more water?

The CMA do not push to give them more water, but they do meet regularly and put in water-saving proposals.

- How closely aligned are CMAs with Property Vegetation Plans (PVA)?

Very close, the CMAs implement the plans.

- How are they monitored, and what are the benchmarks?

The CMAs sign people up, then monitor them. Only if you want any development to occur do you need a PVA, it is not compulsory for all landholders.

The Mayor thanked Mark and Paul for attending and giving Council an informative address, and invited them to join Council for lunch.

34-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Meeting Standing Orders resume

MOTION CARRIED

The Meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm and resumed at 1:55 pm.

The Mayor thanked the CWA ladies for the excellent lunch and morning tea they provided.

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

SECTION 14. URGENT BUSINESS

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

SECTION 15. CONFIDENTIAL MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 *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*
 - 2 *Commercial Information of a Confidential Nature that would if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it*
-

The Manager of Community Development left the meeting at 2:00 pm during discussion on resolution 40-10-05.

35-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Doyle

- 1 *That Council form into a Committee of Council comprising the whole of the Council and the General Manager and staff according to the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A (2) (a) in order to discuss personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) and*
- 2 *Commercial Information of a Confidential Nature that would if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it*

MOTION CARRIED

The Manager of Community Development returned to the meeting at 2:11 pm.

Cr Linnett and Cr Sullivan retired from the meeting at 2:14 pm.

36-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Fisher that the Council Meeting revert to Ordinary Status

MOTION CARRIED

37-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Wellings that all Motions passed in the Confidential Section of the Meeting be brought into the Ordinary Meeting

MOTION CARRIED

The following are the motions passed during the Confidential Section of the meeting.

38-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Doyle that a portion of Motion 44-9-05 be rescinded, being:

"that the Menindee Waste Facility be serviced and maintained by Council Staff"

MOTION CARRIED

39-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council continue the current waste disposal arrangements for a period of 3 months

MOTION CARRIED

40-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Doyle that Council proceed to sign an employment contract with the Manager Environmental Services to the remuneration levels shown in this report, affixing the Council Seal to appropriate documents and alter the remuneration schedule of the employment contract with the Manager Community Development to reflect remuneration levels contained in this report.

MOTION CARRIED

41-10-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Reid that Council issue a notice of intent to serve an order to rectify the defective works

MOTION CARRIED

SECTION 16. FIXING DATES AND VENUES FOR NEXT MEETING

A Training Workshop on the Code of Conduct will be held for Staff and Councillors on Monday 14th November 2005 commencing at 2:30 pm.

The next Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Wilcannia on Tuesday 15th November 2005 commencing at 9:00 am

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 2:20 pm
