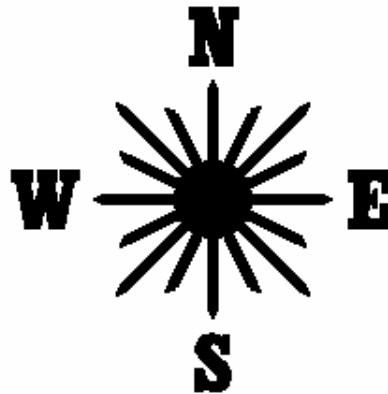


Mission Statement

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

CENTRAL DARLING



SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes

For the Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 20th December 2005

at

Wilcannia

Council dedicated to serving its Communities.

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

The above-mentioned Meeting of Council was in the Council Chambers, Wilcannia on Tuesday 20th December 2005 commencing at 9:07 am.

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

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Peter Sullivan

Graham Wellings

Barbara MacMillan

Anthony Pease

Paul Brown

Mike Arandt

Moya Reid

Clive Linnett

Ray Longfellow

Robert Vagg

Rick Doyle

Suzie Fisher

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr Tim Hazell

Director of Corporate Services

Mr Russell Bow

Director of Engineering Services

Mrs LEEANNE RYAN

Manager of Environmental Services

Mrs Sharon Hutch

Manager of Community Development

Miss Robyn Smith

Administration Officer

APOLOGIES:

General Manager

Bill O'Brien

SECTION 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous meeting be received

1-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Pease that the minutes of the previous meeting be received

MOTION CARRIED

A question without notice from Cr Linnett was omitted from the November Draft Minutes. This question should have stated:

Would Council please repaint the "Welcome to Central Darling Shire Council" signs on the Shire Boundaries.

The Director of Engineering Services will attend.

Cr Linnett also thanked the Director of Engineering Services for creating fire breaks around the Ivanhoe Township.

The November Minutes have been amended accordingly.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted

2-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Pease that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted

MOTION CARRIED

2.1 Business Arising out of Minutes

2.2 Notices of Motion/Rescission

2.2.1 Notice of Motion

Background

The "Wilcannia Works Program " Model is based on the successful works program conducted by the Community Employment Development program at Wilcannia over a six month period.

It is widely acknowledged this program produced outstanding results and could be the "model" for ongoing works programs across Shire towns within the Barwon Darling Alliance. The program included the establishment of a Heritage Trail and Memorial Park and the painting of buildings.

The Federal Minister for Multicultural Affairs the Hon John Cobb MP inspected the program and was suitably impressed and subsequently contacted senior officers from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Department of Employment & Workplace Relations in relation to

the application of appropriate works programs. The General Manager has also made many enquiries to Government agencies without success. Notwithstanding it is apparent at present there are only extremely limited opportunities to continue this or a similar program under any existing Government works programs

As a result it has been proposed that a works program be designed and funding partners sought. The program would contain elements 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.

In order to continue the program, NSW State Government Corporate Utility, Country Energy committed to contribute \$25,000 per year for three years and Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation will match this contribution.

Motion

That Council match the \$25,000 per year for the next three years that both Country Energy and Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation have committed to contributing toward the model Wilcannia Works Program.

MOVED

SECONDED



Cr Sullivan

Cr Pease

3-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Pease that Council match the \$25,000 per year for the next three years that both Country Energy and Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation have committed to contributing toward the model Wilcannia Works Program.

MOTION LOST

SECTION 3. MAYORAL MINUTE OR REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Report be received and noted

4-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Longfellow, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the Mayoral Report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

3.1.1 Menindee-Pooncarie Road

Thursday 17th November. Travelled to Menindee and met with fellow Councillors Arandt and Reid and the Director of Engineering Services at Menindee to meet with the RTA representatives Area Manager Anan Pavan and Paul Moriarty, Area Maintenance Manager of Western and South West Regions. Jeremy Rudd and Adam Pullen, both Engineers from Wentworth Shire Council were also in attendance. Discussion revolved around the type of country the road traverses, availability of suitable base gravel, alignment of road etc. After approximately an hour's discussion, RTA, Wentworth Engineers, Director of Engineering Services Russell Bow and Councillor Moya Reid proceeded with a tour of inspection through to Pooncarie. Refer to Director of Engineering Services report, item 6.5.

3.1.2 Western Division Group of Shires Association Mid-term Meeting.

Held at Cobar on Wednesday 7th December. Myself and the General Manager attended the above meeting. The Minister for Local Government the Hon Kerry Hickey, Member for Murray-Darling Peter Black OAM, MP and the President of the Shires Association Cr Col Sullivan were in attendance and addressed the meeting. Some of the items discussed included

- Acute shortage of dentists in rural and regional areas
- Alliances are preferable to the Minister for Local Government, not forced amalgamations of Councils
- Ongoing negotiations regarding amalgamation of Shires Association and Local Government Association
- Western Division of Shires Association Annual Conference to be held in Broken Hill from 5th to 7th March 2006. Refer General Manager's report item 4.4.2.

3.1.3 East-West Rail Link

Meeting hosted by Wentworth Shire Council and chaired by Mayor Margaret Thompson regarding the proposed rail link which would connect Wentworth to Darnick/Surveyor's Lake area to the main rail line.

The meeting was attended by Andrew Daley, Executive Director (Investor Resources, Finance); Peter Crawley, Managing Director (Growing Innovations Management Pty Ltd); Peter Black OAM, MP, Local Member; Phil Pearce, CEO of Mildura City Council; and Andrew Millen, CEO of Sunraysia Mallee Economic Development Board.

SECTION 4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

5-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Arandt that the General Manager's report be received and dealt with

MOTION CARRIED

4.1 Administration Matters

4.1.1 Contract Administration Engineer

It is with regret I advise Council of the resignation of Council's Contract Administration Engineer Mr Shree Chandra Shrestha effective from the 1st December 2005. Shree commenced duties with Council on the 28th April 2003 and leaves to take a position as Works Engineer – Construction with the Griffith City Council. Shree leaves Council with best wishes for the future.

4.1.2 Assistant Overseer

Council has received the resignation of Mick Williams from the position as Council's Assistant Overseer effective 9th December 2005. Mick Williams commenced with Council as a member of the outside staff on the 1st March 1995 and has held a number of positions including Storeman, Town Ganger, and Assistant Overseer.

Mick Williams will remain an employee of Council in the role of Inspections Officer and will commence in this position on a temporary basis for a period of six months from the 12th December 2005. This appointment is a major change in direction and presents a new career path for Mick Williams and I have complete confidence in his ability to meet the objectives of the position.

4.1.3 Annual Leave – General Manager

The General Manager applied to Mayor Ray Longfellow and has been granted approval to take leave from the Monday the 12th December 2005 until Tuesday the 3rd January 2006 inclusive. It is anticipated this leave arrangement may be interrupted to allow the General Manager to attend the December 2005 Council meeting if this should be necessary.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Administration report be received and noted

6-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Administration report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 Staff Christmas Leave 2005.

In consideration of the continued commitment of staff and the general willingness to undertake additional working hours without financial incentive, Council is requested to again consider the granting of additional leave to indoor staff including Bank staff over the Christmas period.

The additional leave involved, being three days, to be granted from Wednesday the 28th December – Friday the 30th December 2005. Monday the 2nd January 2006 is a Public Holiday therefore the administration office will re open on Tuesday the 3rd January 2006. Traditional Council practice has provided that indoor and banking staff an additional 3 days leave over this period as a reward for unpaid overtime worked throughout the year.

Staff levels from the 24th December through to the Monday 10th January 2006 will be minimised and staff are encouraged to take annual leave and other outstanding leave entitlements during this period.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council grant an additional three days leave from Wednesday the 28th December 2005 until the 30th December 2005 to all indoor and banking staff members in recognition of overtime hours worked throughout the year without financial incentive

7-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett that Council grant an additional three days leave from Wednesday the 28th December 2005 until the 30th December 2005 to all indoor and banking staff members in recognition of overtime hours worked throughout the year without financial incentive

MOTION CARRIED

4.3 Council Meetings

It is noted that Section 365 of the Local Government Act 1993 states

“The Council is required to meet at least 10 times each year, each time in a different month”.

In order for Senior Council staff and Councillors to enjoy an extended break over the Christmas holiday period it is recommended that Council not meet during January 2006. Apart from a general cost saving, there are a number of advantages to Council in adopting this recommendation including the opportunity for Senior Staff to take accrued leave in a reasonable block in a traditionally quiet time with many Government agencies closed.. Accrued leave is currently a concern and staff members are certainly encouraged to use their leave entitlements, nevertheless under normal circumstances taking extended leave can prove difficult when resolutions of Council require action and reports and meeting agendas prepared.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council not meet during January 2006

***8-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded
Clr Sullivan that Council not meet during January
2006***

MOTION CARRIED

4.4 Information Items

4.4.1 Murray Darling Association

Council has received a copy of the Murray Darling Association's 61st Annual Report 2004 – 2005. A copy of the report can be made available to Councillors on request.

4.4.2 Western Division Group of the Shires Association

The Mayor and General Manager attended the Mid Term Meeting of the Western Division Group of the Shires Association held in Cobar on the 7th December 2005. The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Kerry Hickey MP, the Member for Murray Darling Peter Black OAM MP and the President of the Shires Association Col Sullivan addressed this meeting.

Council is advised that the 2006 Annual Conference of the Western Division Group of the Shires Association will take from the 5th – 7th March 2006 at Broken Hill. Councillors are reminded that all Motions for consideration at the conference must be submitted by the February 2006 Council Meeting.

4.4.3 Western Catchment Management Authority

The General Manager attended a meeting of the Western Catchment Management Authority on the 7th December 2005 at Cobar.

- The 2005 Native Vegetation Act & Regulations in force from the 1st December 2005
- Natural Resource Management – Incentive Program - Opportunities exist for Councils and landholders under this category, \$3.5 million dollar program to access funding assistance to undertake natural resource management projects.
- Catchment Management Plans – Local Environmental Plans need to be reviewed and re-submitted within 3 – 5 years – Council needs to consider how the Catchment Management authorities and the Department of Planning might best be able to provide information and assistance in the preparation of this Plan (LEP). A “template” developed by Walgett Shire funded by State Government may also be available to assist Councils in this process.
- Sustainable Regions Program Darling Matilda Way – Western Lands Commissioner Geoff Wise informed the meeting the closing date for the next round of funding under this \$23 Million dollar program close on the 28th February 2006

***RECOMMENDATION
For Council Information***

4.5 Barwon Darling Alliance:

4.5.1 Annual General Meeting 2005

The Annual General Meeting of the Barwon Darling Alliance was conducted on the 18th November 2005 at Bourke. Elections for Executive positions took place and the Chairman of Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly, Sam Jefferies has been re-elected as Chairman for a further period and Ken Croskell General Manager of Bourke Shire Council as Chief Executive Officer. Ms Charlotte Finch is the Project Manager.

It was resolved by the members of the Alliance to increase members' contributions for 2006 – 2007 by 4% in line with increased operating costs.

4.5.2 Community Banking – Bendigo Bank

The Barwon Darling Alliance resolved to pursue possible community banking opportunities and will invite representatives from the Bendigo Bank to the next meeting of the Alliance scheduled for the 9th February 2006 at Brewarrina to present the Bendigo Bank's *Community Bank* concept. It is understood Bendigo Bank are prepared to assess a possible "hub and spokes" model that could be adapted across the Barwon Darling Alliance communities.

4.5.3 Wilcannia Works Program

The Barwon Darling Alliance has resolved to support the Wilcannia Works program "Model" and has further agreed to pursue funding opportunities through Federal and State Government agencies and corporate sponsors.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Barwon Darling Alliance report be received and noted

9-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Linnett that the Barwon Darling Alliance be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

4.6 NSW Rural Fire Service

Council has been advised by the NSW Rural Fire Service of the provision of two new Category 9 Tankers. In conjunction with the Senior Management – Quarterly Review meeting at Wilcannia scheduled for the 19th December 2005 it is proposed to hand over the two vehicles to Central Darling Rural Fire Service on this occasion.

The NSW Rural Fire Service Regional Manager, Dominic Lane, will be in attendance to present the keys to Council.

Both vehicles are based on 75 Series Toyota Landcruiser chassis, with custom built fire fighting bodies, diesel pump, upgraded suspensions, crew protection devices, communications equipment and in cab pump and protection controls. They are to be issued to the Central Darling Group Captains (Ivanhoe - Wilcannia) for their use during fire related activities and other Rural Fire Service business related activities.

It is my understanding these vehicles will be the first new Rural Fire Service vehicles issued into the Central Darling district and will be an asset to the organisation. As with all other Rural Fire Service equipment their ownership will be vested in Council for care, maintenance and insurance purposes. Units were funded from carried over, unexpended funds that were held by the Central Darling district which were transferred for this purpose with the full support of the Rural Fire Service Senior Management Committee and Council's Fire Liaison Committee.

As a matter of interest these tankers came in at about \$75,000 each, which is below the original estimate (Councils contribution is less than \$10,000 each). An official handover of both vehicles will take place on Monday the 19th December 2005 commencing at 4pm in Wilcannia. Councillors and Rural Fire Service volunteers are encouraged to attend this occasion.

RECOMMENDEATION

That the NSW Rural Fire Service report be received and noted

10-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Pease that the NSW Rural Fire Service report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Linnett thanked Council for the two new vehicles for Darnick and White Cliffs.

Acting General Manager Mr Tim Hazell attended the Quarterly Review meeting on 19th December and reported that Regional Manager, Dominic Lane and Chris Flavell, Team Leader extended their appreciation of the NSW Rural Fire Service to Council on the relationship and being able to work together for the betterment of the Community.

4.7 West Darling Arts – Artists In Residence Program Wilcannia

West Darling Arts on behalf of Wilcannia Arts have been successful in securing program funding under the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund to undertake Artists in Residence Program at Wilcannia. Significant program funding of \$21,000 per year for the next 3 years will be available to implement this program.

West Darling Arts through Wilcannia Arts will manage and coordinate a tri-annual program of artists in residence, with three residencies in each year of 2006, 2007 and 2008.

The resident artists will live and work in the township of Wilcannia using the Wilcannia Art Centre as their primary studio space. This centre is for artists/community members of Wilcannia to use on a daily basis for their own art production, and resident artists will therefore be co-sharing this space. The Wilcannia Art Centre has an adjacent flat on the property which will be used as accommodation for the resident artists.

Each resident artists' art-making process will be engaged with: developing exchange of ideas and practice through collaborative partnerships; formal and informal skills development delivered through workshops and mutual creative association.

Each year will culminate with a group resident artists exhibition to be toured locally and regionally as well as a metropolitan show. Additionally, there will be a yearly local exhibition of Wilcannia based artists to further support professional exhibition practice and presentation.

West Darling Arts and the Wilcannia Arts committee – through a process of calling for Expressions of Interest in the residencies – have selected six artist proposals for residencies which formed part of the proposal for Regional Arts Fund funding – covering the first two years of the proposed three year program.

A new round of Expressions of Interest will be sought after review and evaluation of the first two years, determining the direction for the third year of residencies.

The artists-in-residence included in the proposal are:

Year 1 – 2006

Badger Bates – 21 day residency, offering lino print making in a highly structured workshop offering strong participatory skills development.

Peter McGlinchey – 21 day residency offering medium level structured workshops in found object art.

Geoff De Main – 21 day residency in drawing and sculpture.

Year 2 – 2007

Badger Bates – 21 day residency offering highly structured workshops in Barkandji Art, developing skills through participation.,

Pamela Bugmy – 21 day residency offering workshop based mentoring on a door project in Barkandji Art.

Rick Ball - 21 day residency in painting.

Background- Benefits for the community

Wilcannia is a remote and isolated community with limited access to community cultural and professional skills development in the arts. The community is predominantly Indigenous – Barkindji (90% of the 700 residents) and considerably marginalised. With a proportionally high number of the population identifying as artists or pursuing some form of art practice, Wilcannia Arts has developed out of community necessity to support, advocate and provide nurturance to the arts and artists in Wilcannia.

The residency program will significantly further the skills development and inter-relational arts development sorely lacking in such isolated communities. It will provide tangible exposure for local artists to professional artists' practices, skills and processes, broadening the influence in the use of materials and media; approaches in consideration of subject matter and extending the visual vocabulary. The program will also challenge the unconscious development of 'cottage industry' art styles and/or inappropriate visual icon/languages that can develop when lack of interaction across art forms and cultural practices occur – particularly for remote Indigenous communities. This project will be provocative of open discussion and awareness of cultural practices, the arts industry, marketing and audience development.

The residency program and exhibitions will be of mutual benefit to all participating, through skills capacity building and linkage to networks throughout the region. The exhibition components in part become celebratory events, evaluative tools, documentary and demonstration of the strength and vitality of the region.

RECOMMENDATION

That the West Darling Arts report be received and noted.

11-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the West Darling Arts report be received and noted

MOTION CARRIED

4.8 Local Government Association- Fair Trade Program

During the 2005 Local Government Association Annual Conference the Association resolved to actively support the Fair Trade Program. The specific resolution was ‘*That in response to the urgent global need to alleviate world poverty, the Local Government Association and other member Councils actively support and promote the Fairtrade program being promoted by OXFAM and other aid agencies. (I.e. providing the opportunity for poor farmers and workers from developing countries to get a fair price for their goods and labour, and sustainable development)*”

Councils can participate by becoming Fair Trade Communities. Six goals for Fair Trade Communities have been set by the Fair Trade Association of Australia and New Zealand based on a successful program in the United Kingdom which has 121 declared Fair Trade Towns and a further 238 working toward accreditation.

The first goal is for Council to pass a resolution supporting Fair Trade and committing Council to serve Fair Trade certified tea and coffee at its offices, meetings and functions. Further actions necessary to meet the goals would include setting up a Fair Trade steering group to promote the use of Fair Trade products in local businesses and attracting media attention coverage of the program. Whilst it is acknowledged Central Darling Shire may not be in a position to obtain full accreditation in this program, using Fair Trade certified products including tea and coffee would certainly be achievable.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support Fair Trade and commit where possible serve Fair Trade tea and Coffee in Council offices and at meetings and functions.

12-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Linnett that Council support Fair Trade and commit where possible serve Fair Trade Tea and Coffee in Council Offices and at meetings and functions.

MOTION CARRIED

4.9 Darling To Diamantina Alliance

A meeting of the Darling to Diamantina alliance Inc took place on the October 2005 at Cameron Corner.

Darling to Diamantina Alliance Inc

REPORT

Cameron Corner Meeting

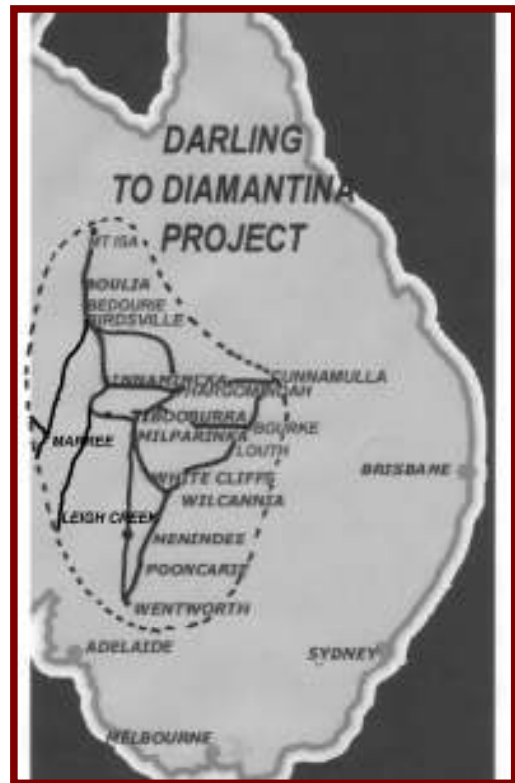
November 3rd 2005

Introduction

The Darling to Diamantina Alliance is an incorporated body drawing membership from local government, community organisations and state-government agencies.

It aims to improve opportunities for the sustainability of small remote communities across far-western New South Wales, north-eastern South Australia and western Queensland, by working collaboratively on a range of tourism related projects.

In meeting its vision the Alliance seeks to develop an identifiable outback region that will be recognised as having the capacity to deliver quality touring experiences. The Alliance undertakes to implement projects which will deliver tangible benefits to the economy of small communities.



The Strategic Priorities of the Alliance are:

1. Identify participating local governments, communities and agencies
2. Consult with partner local governments, communities, and agencies
3. Determine the level of commitment by local government, communities and agencies
4. Develop plans and applications for complementary funding
5. Implement plans

On November 3rd 2005 the Alliance successfully achieved the first three of its strategic priorities, by holding a historic tri-state meeting at Cameron Corner in south-western Queensland. Attended by representatives of all sectors of the Alliance membership, the meeting clearly confirmed support for, and commitment to, the principles of the Alliance, and established a range of priorities.

It must be acknowledged that the scope of the project is far greater than originally anticipated, due entirely to the fact that the number of local governments and communities seeking to join the Alliance, has doubled in

recent weeks. The locations of these communities makes it impractical to define a singular linear corridor of experiences, but rather that our focus in the future will be for those contained within a geographical "envelope" from Wentworth to Mt Isa, Cunnamulla to Marree.

Having said that, it is important that we avoid further isolating or marginalising those communities not located along current or proposed themed trails within the prescribed region. It may well be that these communities themselves will determine whether they wish to be identified as "belonging" to a particular route or routes. As members, the communities should be afforded the support of the Alliance in this matter.

The future capacity of the Alliance to deliver real benefits to the region, as identified at the Cameron Corner meeting, will be realised if we are able to respond to and or address the following issues.

Local Community Investment

At the Cameron Corner meeting it was made evident that a series of local consultations need to take place within each community. Whether self determined or auspiced by the Alliance these consultations should seek to identify:

- the level of local community support for tourism
- the level of local business support
- the capacity of each community to accommodate the needs of increased visitor numbers
- any local infrastructure needed to address identified short-comings
- what local promotional collateral exists and what needs to be developed
- linkages with local tourism attractions
- support for local service and information provider training and development
- the level of community support for themed, cultural or other linkages with neighboring communities

In addition to immediate local issues, regional marketing initiatives were identified by the meeting. These include:

- The development of a website that embraces the prescribed region. Such a website should not only cover each community and attraction, but include travel-safe information and regional events.
- The development of a region-specific map that also contains local information and road safety information.
- The capacity and will (of communities) to refer visitors to other communities and or like businesses.
- The development and promotion of regional events, such as could be included on a calendar of regular events or especially developed and promoted.

Other issues relating to the marketing of the region are identified later in this document.

It was clearly identified at the meeting that visitor experiences in the region are not being maximised because people do not have the required information about a particular local region at the time of holiday planning. Such information would enable them to choose longer stays in a particular local community or

region.

Lack of recognition was also seen as an issue. With research apparently indicating that only around 2% of the population recognised the name of a major centre such as Broken Hill, ¹ the chances for name recognition for some of the smaller, regional centres is somewhat remote.

At times communities, and even attractions such as the National Parks, are seen only as "pass-bys" in the broader scheme of traveling through the outback.

¹ Wincen Cuy, GM ORTO

Roads and Road-Safety

Whilst the tourist-attractiveness of unsealed versus sealed outback roads is often hotly debated, the overwhelming consensus of view at the Cameron Corner meeting was that "fear" is a major contributing factor for people determining where they will take their vacation.

This has apparently been borne out in recent research conducted by the Travel Research Centre on behalf of Outback NSW, and anecdotally indicated by a range of other agencies. ²

The "fear-factor" is associated with a:

- lack of comprehension of the distances needed to travel
- lack of skill handling a range of road surface conditions
- lack of skill packing holiday equipment
- fear of becoming lost
- fear of not knowing where accommodation, meals etc will be available
- fear of mechanical break down
- lack of internet and or mobile telephone coverage
- concern about road travel times, and the urgency associated with getting to a prescribed overnight destination

It should not be beyond the realms of possibility that a major combined marketing program be engaged by the Alliance, in partnership with other agencies, in order to seek to change the perceptions that travel in the outback is dangerous. This in turn could be seen as an incentive for undertaking a holiday in the "outback", previously not considered as a viable option because of the "fear factor".

The need for regular rest areas to be located at distances of 80 to 100 kilometres apart was also discussed and endorsed by the meeting. Representatives of the South Australia Department of Road Transport attending the meeting reported on initiatives seeking to improve road safety in the far north east of South Australia, whilst similar information was made available by Queensland Roads.

Further investigation needs to be undertaken with regard to the inclusion of rest-area site facilities such as:

- toilets
- picnic tables
- signage
- children's play equipment
- other equipment
- site activities

Moreover, the meeting resolved to write to a range of local governments, roads departments, national park agencies and others with a view to determining an agreed policy on the following matters relating to roadside rest areas.

- public access to adjacent privately owned pastoral lands
- liability insurance
- appropriate garbage disposal practices
- rest area maintenance

Regional Tourism Programs and the Environment

The region prescribed by the Darling to Diamantina Alliance embraces two Catchment areas (Murray-Darling and the Lake Eyre Basin), and a number of major national parks and other natural environment and cultural attractions. Representing the New South Wales (NSW) Department of Environment, Regional Manager Steve Millington spoke of the vision of NSW Parks to undertake an audit of its environmental assets and to develop "themes" for each of the parks.

Such an initiative will help to create specific interest regions which, in conjunction with local businesses, would have the potential to appeal to specific groups of travelers.

Opportunities to provide tour operator education programs are being considered, as well as expansion of existing university-based research programs. In western New South Wales such programs are run in conjunction with the University of New South Wales Arid Zone Research Station at Fowler's Gap, and could be expanded to include visitor education programs.

The opportunity exists for regional managers of national and conservation parks in the three states involved to engage in dialogue that could lead to improved cross-border cooperation and possibly even joint holiday programs,

Private operator new business potential includes charter flight touring to theme-linked parks and communities as part of cooperative service agreements with local communities, together with increased potential for landholder participating in eco-tourism projects.

Representing Mutawintji Heritage Tours and the Mutawintji Local Aboriginal Land Council, Mark Sutton, affirmed his community's support for the Alliance and its principles, hopefully paving the way for future cooperative indigenous tourism program support.

Marketing

As a grass-roots organisation the Darling to Diamantina Alliance acknowledged at the Cameron Corner meeting that it is essential that our member communities self-market. The often used phrase that "word of mouth is the best form of advertising" was identified as a primary and readily achievable goal for members of the Alliance.

In real terms this encompasses honest, friendly service, accurate and genuine information, passion about our local communities, but the wisdom to refer visitors to other communities and attractions within the region, that will deliver long term benefits.

At a secondary level, the development of local tourist information and collateral, as well as touring itineraries, to be made available at Visitor Information Centres

and other relevant local distribution points, was seen as essential for encouraging people to remain in the community longer.

This material, packaged as information packs, could be made available in major regional centres and with tour operators and car hire centres for use by potential visitors.

A website and regional touring map were referred to earlier.

"Know your market" was an expression often used at the meeting. Research data provided by regional tourism agencies, as well as information collected locally, can be used to help identify the groups of people most likely to visit the region.

Recently installed local traffic counters (Sturt National Park) are providing accurate road usage statistics which can be utilised to improve marketing opportunities.

Unfortunately there was no representation at the meeting from Flinders Ranges and Outback Tourism, although a letter from the South Australian Minister for Tourism did offer support for the concept of cross border collaboration.

General Manager of the NSW Outback Regional Tourist Organisation (ORTO), Wincen Cuy, advised the meeting that his organisation could not commit any funds to Alliance projects, although he could offer advice and support.³ The ORTO has substantially invested in the development a themed route along the Darling River, (The Darling River Run) over the past eight years.

Linking-in with current existing marketing initiatives was identified at the meeting as an initiative in which the Alliance could engage. With several towns and two of the local governments along the Darling River Run route currently being members of the Darling to Diamantina Alliance, benefits of the marketing of the route will flow on to those specific communities.

Tourism Queensland and Outback Queensland Tourism was represented at the meeting via a difficult telephone connection. Both Mark Olsen and Barry Duncan were able to offer the meeting advice on a range of matters relative to the project, and in particular information pertaining to the successful marketing of the Overlander Way. Most specifically, regular representation at tourism trade events was identified as providing recognition-success for the communities along this themed route.

³ Statistical information from recent research

⁴ Mark Olsen, Tourism Queensland

Whilst external marketing was not identified as a major role of the Alliance, statistical information about "the market" suggested that 60%⁴ of holiday decisions are made before leaving home. It was also suggested that the majority of visitors were couples unaccompanied by children, and that they were often self-contained so far as accommodation was concerned.

This information could be taken into consideration as the Alliance develops plans for the development of regional collateral (if appropriate) and has potential ramifications for future funding applications.

Linkages to larger regional centres

Linkages with major regional centres and capital cities already exist through the inclusion in the "geographical envelope" routes and trails such as the Darling River Run and the proposed Adventure Way.

Since self-drive visitors are the most likely group to take a holiday in the region, considerations of rail, airline and car hire services to and from major centres were raised at the meeting.

Local 4WD hire is available from a number of larger locations, but few offer alternative drop off options. Approaches have apparently been made to Britz in an effort to increase hire vehicle options, with negative results.

One measure suggested by the meeting was to ensure that 4WD hire vehicle offices be supplied with touring material so as to provide information about regional options.

There is little likelihood of the expansion of regional air-services into the area.

Recommendations

In order to progress the project beyond the philosophical stage, and to obtain some level of credibility, it is now necessary to address the fourth and fifth priorities of the Alliance. In the short term there are a range of initiatives that can be undertaken. Some are mentioned above, but others, listed below, follow as a natural progression from the meeting and the general tenet of the Alliance.

Whilst it could be argued that the size of the region contained within the prescribed geographical "envelope" presents enormous challenges for the Darling to Diamantina Alliance, the grass-roots, holistic approach of the organisation provides it with unique opportunities to undertake this project.

Short term activities

- Begin gathering information from local communities in order to begin building tangible linkages
- Maintain communication with state and regional tourist organisations
- Link into current regional tourism promotions
- Write to roads authorities, local governments, and national parks to establish a consensus of view on roadside garbage disposal, road safety and property access issues.
- Develop a funding submission for assistance to fully scope and cost the project.

The communities themselves can consider measures that would enable them to enhance visitor experiences and prolong stays. These include:

- providing quality, consistent local tourism information
- local and regional business to business referrals and joint programs
- developing a range of local cultural tourism programs
- staging events that contribute to the outback experience
- Remaining true to the spirit of character that sets the people of the "bush" apart from the rest of the country.

Longer term activities

Upon completion of scoping studies The Darling to Diamantina Alliance should proceed with the development of a substantial funding application in order to

address those areas of the project that were identified at the meeting at Cameron Corner. The following are some of the possible project options that could be explored.

- A major jointly-funded outback travel road safety initiative to address the "fear factor." Such an initiative would have national implications. If successful in promoting the outback as a safe holiday alternative, it can be pre-supposed that there would be an increase in visitor numbers to the region.
- A series of regularly spaced road-side rest area and camping areas that could be built in conjunction with state roads' authorities and local government. Whilst the primary benefit would be road safety, the secondary benefit would be to provide alternate stopover places and additional information about the region that would enhance visitor experiences. This, in turn, would lead to an anticipated increase in visitor numbers due to the "word of mouth" appreciation factor.
- A dynamic website that embraces the entire region, with linkages to, and information about, each community, providing planning resources for potential visitors.
- Appropriate accurate and comprehensive mapping and interpretive material to support the planning of potential visitors, provide a greater appreciation of the resources and attractions of the region and increase the level of visitor experiences.
- Local community service delivery training and development to ensure that each community provides a consistent, quality visitor experience.
- Local infrastructure projects as identified through community consultation meetings.
- Support for regional collaborative projects, such as those which may be proposed by National Parks and or indigenous groups, that will both provide cultural, heritage and environmental programs to enhance visitor experiences and which can demonstrate positive outcomes for aboriginal groups and the environment.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Darling to Diamantina Alliance report be received and noted.

***13-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded
Clr Sullivan that the Darling to Diamantina
Alliance Report be received and noted.***

MOTION CARRIED

4.10 Economic Development Executive Group

As a result of a forum conducted early in 2003 and facilitated by the NSW Premiers Department, a number of key stakeholders were invited to form the "Economic Development Executive Group" and an invitation was extended to the General Manager of Central Darling Shire Council to be a member of the group. The principle aim of the Economic Development Executive Officers Group is to work cooperatively to drive prioritised economic and social goals for Broken Hill, Central Darling Shire and the unincorporated area.

As a result of a number of meeting/workshops, a Strategic Cooperation Plan has been formulated. The Plan was presented to Council for review and was subsequently adopted.

This item was presented at the February 2004 regular meeting of Council and was deferred until the March 2004 meeting. The Strategic Cooperation Plan was subsequently adopted at that meeting and resolved further to sign a Memorandum of Understanding in order to implement the actions contained within the Plan. There has been some considerable delay in producing this Memorandum of Understanding however the document has been completed and adopted by Regional Economic Steering Group for Council's adoption.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council sign a Memorandum of Understanding dated September 2005 in order to implement the actions contained within the Broken Hill Regional Economic Development Cooperation Plan.

14-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Ctr Wellings, Seconded Ctr Reid that Council sign a Memorandum of Understanding dated September 2005 in order to implement the actions contained within the Broken Hill Regional Economic Development Cooperation Plan.

MOTION CARRIED

4.11 Local Government Remuneration Tribunal – Councillors Fees 2005 - 2006

The Minister for Local Government the Hon Tony Kelly MLC announced in April 2005 that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal agreed to defer its decision of Councillor fees for 2005-06 until the review of the expenses policies adopted by Councils had been finalised.

The report states:

"In the light of the review of the expenses policy the Tribunal has considered the quantum of fees for 2005/2006. It has been determined to defer any changes to the fee structure until the results of the Government's inquiry are available."

Central Darling Shire Council is a Category 5 and the following determinations applied to 2004 – 2005

| | Minimum | Maximum |
|------------|---------|----------|
| Mayor | \$6,240 | \$10,615 |
| Councillor | \$5,875 | \$6,460 |

Resolution 7-5-04 states:

7-5-04 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Vagg, Seconded Clr Linnett that Councillors' Fee for the 2004/2005 remain as currently set, and the Mayor be paid the maximum allowance.

MOTION CARRIED

Therefore, Councillors' allowance is currently \$6,060, and the Mayor \$10,615.

In light of the review, and no correspondence being received from the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal since April 2005, no change to Councillors and Mayor Fees is recommended for 2005-2006.

RECOMMENDATION

That there is no change to the Councillors' and Mayor's fees for 2005-2006.

15-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Pease that there is no change to the Councillor's and Mayor's fees for 2005-2006.

MOTION CARRIED

It was decided to move into Confidential to discuss this matter before voting on the recommendation

16-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Brown that Council form into a committee of Council comprising the whole of the Council and Staff present according to the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A (2) (c) in order to discuss Commercial Information of a Confidential Nature that would if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

MOTION CARRIED

17-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr MacMillan that the Council Meeting revert back to Ordinary Status.

MOTION CARRIED

4.12 Central Darling Integrated Water Management Project

4.12.1 Confidentiality Deed

In order to proceed with any proposed joint venture between Council and Country Energy requires that a Confidentiality Deed be prepared and signed by the joint venture partners. Recitals to include:

- Country Energy and Central Darling Shire Council are both in possession of Confidential Information.
- Both Parties will be disclosing their own Confidential Information and receiving Confidential Information belonging to the other Party.
- Country Energy wishes to engage in discussions with Central Darling Shire Council concerning a Water Services Partnership.
- Country Energy and Central Darling Shire Council wish to record the terms and conditions upon which they will respectively disclose Confidential Information.

4.12.2 Project Delivery Entity

Background:

Council is considering a joint involvement with a project partner in a funding bid under the National Water Commission's Australian Government Water Fund program.

The joint involvement will be necessary to secure both Council's interests and the delivery of the key water services sought for all its Shire communities.

Discussion:

The commercial in confidence details of the project bid and joint arrangements are enclosed.

The nature of the entity that will lodge the funding bid and represent Council's interests in the funding and delivery of the water services and systems proposed by the project are critically important to a successful outcome.

Council's respective specialists in the fields involved will deal with the many separate aspects to ensuring and protecting Council's interests. This proposal is presented to Council to authorise negotiations to progress between the parties in the development of the various aspects of a shareholders agreement that will define Council's interests in the project and the delivery entity.

Local Government Act 1993

In accordance with section 358 of the Local Government Act, 1993 a Council must not form or participate in the formation of a corporation, except with the consent of the Minister. Accordingly, it is proposed to seek the Ministers approval for Council to enter into a corporation to be known as The Far West Water Alliance Pty Ltd.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to:

Seek the approval of the Minister for Local Government to participate in the formation of the Far West Water Alliance Pty Ltd.

Agree in principle to acquire shares in a "limited by shares" corporation to be called the Far West Water Alliance Pty Ltd bid entity with the

acquisition of the shareholding to be subject to the requirements and processes of the NSW Local Government Act 1993

Prior to acquiring the shares, the details of the nature of Central Darling Shire Council's shareholding, interests and involvement in the bid entity corporation is to be determined and defined within a shareholders agreement to be developed between the two parties and agreed by Central Darling Shire Council.

That Council sign and affix the Council Seal to a Confidentiality Deed prepared on behalf of Central Darling Shire Council and Country Energy.

18-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that Council resolves to:

Seek the approval of the Minister for Local Government to participate in the formation of the Far West Water Alliance Pty Ltd.

Agree in principle to acquire shares in a "limited by shares" corporation to be called the Far West Water Alliance Pty Ltd bid entity with the acquisition of the shareholding to be subject to the requirements and processes of the NSW Local Government Act 1993

Prior to acquiring the shares, the details of the nature of Central Darling Shire Council's shareholding, interests and involvement in the bid entity corporation is to be determined and defined within a shareholders agreement to be developed between the two parties and agreed by Central Darling Shire Council.

That Council sign and affix the Council Seal to a Confidentiality Deed prepared on behalf of Central Darling Shire Council and Country Energy.

MOTION CARRIED

**CR BROWN, CR FISHER, CR REID AND CR
MACMILLAN RECORD AGAINST**

The Meeting adjourned at 11.00 am and resumed at 11.32 am

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

19-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Arandt that the Director of Corporate Services report be received and death 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 - November 2005 | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------|
| DATE | TIME PERIOD | INTEREST RATE | DUE DATE | TOTAL (\$) | |
| 11am Call Account | | | | | |
| Commonwealth | | 5.45% | | \$526,744.89 | |
| Westpac | | 5.30% | | \$1,650,000.00 | |
| Floating Rate Notes | | | | | |
| Wollemi Trust | 85 points over 3mth BBSW | 6.64% | 8-Jan-06 | \$1,500,000.00 | |
| -Managed by Westpac | | | | | |
| Commercial Bills | | | | | |
| Commonwealth | 15-Nov-05 | 29 | 5.48% | 14-Dec-05 | \$300,012.00 |
| Term Deposits | | | | | |
| L.G.F.S. | 11-Oct-05 | 92 | 5.66% | 10-Jan-06 | \$500,000.00 |
| (at a margin of 15points over BBSW) | | | | | |
| Total Investments as at 30th November 2005 | | | | | |
| 11 am Call Account | | | | \$2,176,744.89 | |
| Commercial Bills and Notes | | | | \$1,800,012.00 | |
| Term Deposits | | | | \$500,000.00 | |
| | | | | \$4,476,756.89 | |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schedule of Investments report be received and adopted.

20-12-05 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 November is provided for information.

| ITEM | ARREARS | | LEVIES | | | | INTEREST | RECEIPTS | WRITE-OFFS | GOVT SUB | OVER-PAYMENT | TOTAL |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | ARREAR | INT ARREARS | RATES | WATER | DR SUPP | CR SUPP | | | | | | |
| Wilcannia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 38,210.57 | 13,923.45 | 44,439.85 | - | - | - | 1,362.78 | 25,998.50 | - | 924.82 | - | 71,013.33 |
| Special Rate | 5,504.21 | 1,622.88 | 6,274.37 | - | - | 7.05 | 194.16 | 3,815.83 | - | - | - | 9,772.74 |
| Water | 98,946.02 | 28,244.65 | 151,380.00 | - | - | 105.00 | 3,453.39 | 93,448.67 | - | 1,443.75 | - | 187,026.64 |
| Water-Filtered | 8,498.93 | 8,555.79 | - | - | - | - | 295.95 | 584.34 | - | - | - | 16,766.33 |
| Sewer | 51,415.00 | 23,048.84 | 80,500.00 | - | - | 300.00 | 1,660.13 | 54,877.66 | - | 962.50 | - | 100,483.81 |
| Garbage | 29,248.94 | 9,540.95 | 53,390.00 | - | - | - | 978.21 | 35,107.50 | - | 1,402.50 | - | 56,648.10 |
| Excess Water | 110,494.41 | 13,150.14 | - | 34,276.80 | - | - | 4,380.00 | 67,945.58 | 54.23 | - | - | 87,862.96 |
| Charge on Land | 2,535.86 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2,535.86 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -3,827.13 | -3,827.13 |
| Overpayments Water | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 344,853.94 | 98,086.70 | 335,984.22 | 34,276.80 | - | 4,792.05 | 10,266.04 | 281,778.08 | 54.23 | 4,733.57 | -3,827.14 | 528,282.63 |
| Ivanhoe | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 23,230.68 | 6,414.65 | 24,997.81 | - | - | - | 836.55 | 12,564.19 | 0.31 | 1,345.59 | - | 41,569.60 |
| Special Rate | 6,104.73 | 1,676.60 | 6,241.57 | - | - | - | 219.65 | 3,236.54 | 0.08 | - | - | 11,005.93 |
| Water | 34,846.71 | 8,657.47 | 42,695.00 | - | - | - | 1,260.66 | 21,759.18 | 0.90 | 1,619.05 | - | 64,080.71 |
| Water-Filtered | 4,126.72 | 3,258.52 | - | - | - | - | 137.37 | 655.20 | - | - | - | 6,867.41 |
| Garbage | 20,084.77 | 5,031.04 | 35,670.00 | - | - | 180.00 | 710.65 | 20,122.71 | 0.73 | 1,942.70 | - | 39,250.32 |
| Excess Water | 35,242.34 | 8,638.81 | - | 52,740.60 | - | - | 1,179.63 | 58,702.68 | 1.15 | - | - | 39,097.55 |
| Charge on Land | 1,002.74 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1,002.74 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -4,700.49 | -4,700.49 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 124,638.69 | 33,677.09 | 109,604.38 | 52,740.60 | - | 180.00 | 4,344.51 | 117,040.50 | 3.17 | 4,907.34 | -4,700.49 | 198,173.77 |
| White Cliffs | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 7,198.59 | 2,080.68 | 29,729.20 | - | - | - | 258.89 | 18,352.22 | - | 1,863.23 | - | 19,051.91 |
| Special Rate | 652.66 | 176.69 | 2,394.29 | - | - | 4.00 | 22.72 | 1,658.10 | - | - | - | 1,584.26 |
| Water | 17,138.85 | 2,685.94 | 78,800.00 | - | - | 1,100.00 | 616.70 | 49,939.47 | - | 1,947.10 | - | 46,254.92 |
| Water-Filtered | 2,176.12 | 2,176.43 | - | - | - | - | 77.26 | 304.05 | - | - | - | 4,125.76 |
| Excess Water | 15,946.32 | 192.42 | - | 10,094.70 | - | 95.70 | 194.85 | 20,377.54 | 1.39 | - | - | 5,953.66 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -233.78 | -233.78 |
| Overpayments Water | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -100.42 | -100.42 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 43,112.54 | 7,312.16 | 110,923.49 | 10,094.70 | - | 1,199.70 | 1,170.42 | 90,631.38 | 1.39 | 3,810.33 | -334.20 | 76,636.31 |
| Menindee (Environ) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 36,177.12 | 11,459.60 | 73,973.60 | - | - | - | 1,332.62 | 40,360.15 | - | 4,068.81 | - | 78,513.98 |
| Garbage | 6,953.28 | 1,235.69 | 19,080.00 | - | - | - | 264.42 | 9,752.17 | - | 1,262.85 | - | 16,518.37 |
| Charge on Land | 943.76 | - | - | - | 229.24 | - | - | 66.70 | - | - | - | 1,106.30 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -0.12 | -0.12 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 44,074.16 | 12,695.29 | 93,053.60 | - | 229.24 | - | 1,597.04 | 50,179.02 | - | 5,331.66 | -0.12 | 96,138.53 |
| Menindee | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 31,015.28 | 5,734.82 | 49,773.41 | - | 460.45 | 458.45 | 1,150.88 | 24,331.63 | - | 3,099.65 | - | 60,245.11 |
| Special Rate | 4,913.00 | 1,006.60 | 5,855.51 | - | 70.54 | 72.54 | 176.23 | 3,342.62 | - | - | - | 8,606.72 |
| Garbage | 40,257.25 | 4,877.89 | 74,620.00 | - | - | 700.00 | 1,525.60 | 35,453.42 | - | 4,886.83 | - | 80,240.49 |
| Charge on Land | 596.92 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 596.92 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -1,116.73 | -1,116.73 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 76,782.45 | 11,619.31 | 130,248.92 | - | 530.99 | 1,230.99 | 2,852.71 | 63,127.67 | - | 7,986.48 | -1,116.73 | 148,572.51 |
| Rural | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 33,220.75 | 3,786.90 | 306,308.56 | - | - | 2,132.75 | 1,345.77 | 167,516.22 | - | 159.03 | - | 174,853.98 |
| Water | - | 4.97 | 2,125.00 | - | - | - | 255.00 | 2.15 | - | - | - | 1,192.37 |
| Excess Water | 1,811.40 | 6.45 | - | 414.00 | - | - | 18.80 | 1,422.90 | - | - | - | 827.75 |
| Charge on Land | 500.62 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 500.62 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -142.93 | -142.93 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 35,532.77 | 3,798.32 | 308,433.56 | 414.00 | - | 2,387.75 | 1,366.72 | 169,623.87 | - | 159.03 | -142.93 | 177,231.79 |
| Sundry Villages | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 28.37 | 0.98 | 1,325.75 | - | - | - | 1.05 | 1,243.00 | - | - | - | 113.15 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -0.03 | -0.03 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 28.37 | 0.98 | 1,325.75 | - | - | - | 1.05 | 1,243.00 | - | - | -0.03 | 113.12 |
| Sunset Strip | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 7,652.59 | 1,086.55 | 55,378.15 | - | - | - | 258.42 | 34,312.58 | - | 2,482.11 | - | 27,581.02 |
| Garbage | 427.76 | 30.09 | 3,450.00 | - | - | - | 14.84 | 2,109.74 | - | 153.18 | - | 1,659.77 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -90.96 | -90.96 |
| GROUP TOTAL | 8,080.35 | 1,116.64 | 58,828.15 | - | - | - | 273.26 | 36,422.32 | - | 2,635.29 | -90.96 | 29,149.83 |
| REPORT TOTAL | 677,103.27 | 168,306.49 | 1,148,402.07 | 97,526.10 | 760.23 | 9,790.49 | 21,871.75 | 810,045.84 | 58.79 | 29,563.70 | -10,212.60 | 1,254,298.49 |
| TOTAL ALL RATE GROUPS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General | 176,733.95 | 44,487.63 | 585,926.33 | - | 460.45 | 2,591.20 | 6,546.96 | 324,678.49 | 0.31 | 13,943.24 | - | 472,942.08 |
| Special Rate | 17,174.60 | 4,482.77 | 20,765.74 | - | 70.54 | 83.59 | 612.76 | 12,053.09 | 0.08 | - | - | 30,969.65 |
| Water | 150,931.58 | 39,593.03 | 275,000.00 | - | - | 1,460.00 | 5,332.90 | 166,832.07 | 0.90 | 5,009.90 | - | 298,554.64 |
| Water-Filtered | 14,801.77 | 13,990.74 | - | - | - | - | 510.58 | 1,543.59 | - | - | - | 27,759.50 |
| Sewer | 51,415.00 | 23,048.84 | 80,500.00 | - | - | 300.00 | 1,660.13 | 54,877.66 | - | 962.50 | - | 100,483.81 |
| Garbage | 96,972.00 | 20,715.66 | 186,210.00 | - | - | 880.00 | 3,493.72 | 102,545.54 | 0.73 | 9,648.06 | - | 194,317.05 |
| Excess Water | 163,494.47 | 21,987.82 | - | 97,526.10 | - | 4,475.70 | 3,714.70 | 148,448.70 | 56.77 | - | - | 133,741.92 |
| Charge on Land | 5,579.90 | - | - | - | 229.24 | - | - | 66.70 | - | - | - | 5,744.44 |
| Overpayments Rates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -10,112.17 | -10,112.17 |
| Overpayments Water | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -100.43 | -100.43 |
| TOTAL | 677,103.27 | 168,306.49 | 1,148,402.07 | 97,526.10 | 760.23 | 9,790.49 | 21,871.75 | 810,045.84 | 58.79 | 29,563.70 | -10,212.60 | 1,254,298.49 |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rates Collections Report be received and adopted.

21-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Arandt that the Rates Collections Report be received and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

5.3 Abandonments 2004-2005

In accordance with Clause 11 of the Local Government Rates and Charges Regulation now clause 127 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, any rate or charge abandoned throughout the year is to be reported to Council. The accounts abandoned include:-

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| | \$ |
| Pensioner Concessions | 12,986.25 |
| Rates and Charges | 0.00 |
| Sundry Debtors | <u>0.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 12,986.25 |

The amount shown for Pensioner concessions relates to that amount that Council is required to contribute. The Government subsidy of 55% has already been deducted.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the abandonments of rates and charges and sundry debtors for the 2004-2005 Financial Year.

22-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council accept the abandonments of rates and charges and sundry debtors for the 2004-2005 Financial Year.

MOTION CARRIED

| |
|---|
| SECTION 6. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT |
|---|

RECOMMENDATION

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

23-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Vagg that the Director of Engineering Services report be received and dealt with.

MOTION CARRIED

6.1 Activity Report November 2005

Staff meeting 8 December 2005

6.1.1 Staff

The position of Contract Administration Engineer has been advertised in various publications and on the internet. To date, response has been poor.

Michael Williams has resigned from the position of Assistant Overseer. He has accepted a position in the EH & B Department on a temporary basis.

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 | 5 % |
| 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 | 0 |
| | Works Orders received | 0 |
| | Inspection Maintenance Program – Implementation | 85% |
| <u>Administration Officer</u> | | |
| Office | Engineering Enquires, filing, correspondence | |

6.1.3

6.1.4 Depots

The White Cliffs shed erection from materials salvaged from the former Mobil service station is nearing completion

6.1.5 Plant

Separate report on motor vehicle replacements

6.1.6 Training

Training planned

Sewage treatment course to be run in Wilcannia early 2006 with participants also from Bourke, Nyngan and Cobar

6.1.7 Public Conveniences

Solar lighting installed at Myers St toilets, Wilcannia has been vandalised and is to be fitted with mesh protectors when repaired

6.1.8 Water Supplies

Wilcannia

River ceased to flow Monday 5 December

Pumps

One filtered water high lift pump away for repairs

Water Meters

December readings completed

Ivanhoe

Town is back on creek water from Morrison's storage. Storage pumped to 9m

(10m max) prior to cessation of flow in Wilandra Ck

6.1.9 Sewerage

Annual servicing and repair of well pumps completed

6.1.10 Transport & Communication

General

Signs maintenance ongoing

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

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|------|---|---|
| SH 8 | Routine maintenance (SIMC). Heavy patching Reseals Shoulder slashing | Ongoing 42 patches Completed Completed Completed |
| SH21 | Routine maintenance (SIMC) Shoulder slashing Reseals | Ongoing Completed completed |

Regional Roads

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| MR66 Broken Hill to MR68 | Slashing and weed control | Completed |

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| MR67 Ivanhoe to Balranald | Nil | |
| MR 68A Wilcannia To Tilpa | Nil | |
| MR68B Wilcannia to Menindee | Maintenance grade Gravel resheet | 10km near Bonley Ck 3km completed near Bullocky's Swamp |
| MR68C Menindee to Pooncarie | Nil | |
| MR80 Mossgiel to Hillston | Nil | |
| MR 416 Ivanhoe to Cobar | Nil | |
| MR428 White Cliffs toTibooburra | Reshape Gravel sheeting | 10km completed 7km completed |
| MR 433 Ivanhoe to Menindee | Nil | |
| MR435 Wilcannia to White Cliffs | Nil | |

Local Roads

| Road | Activity | Comments |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------|
| SR10 Wilcannia – Menindee East side | Reshape | 25km low sections |
| SR11 M'dee-P'carie West side | Shoulder grade | 13.9km to Shire boundary |
| SR18 Trida | Reshape | 20km |
| SR43 M'dee Aerodrome | Shoulder grade | All sealed length |

Town Streets

| Town | Activity | Comments |
|--------------|--|--|
| Wilcannia | Woore St Sth (150m) Tip road Part Hood St (600m) | Bitumen sealed Bitumen sealed Resealed |
| Ivanhoe | Routine | |
| Menindee | Routine | |
| White Cliffs | Routine | |
| Tilpa | Nil | |

6.1.11

6.1.12 Aerodromes Menindee

Upgraded omni-directional solar powered lights being sent to RFDS for evaluation

6.1.13 Next meeting

8.30am Tuesday 10 January (or Tuesday 14 February if no Council Meeting in January) 2006, meeting room, Engineering Office

RECOMMENDATION

That the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted

Cr Sullivan asked if the Director of Engineering Services would look at turning the Emmdale Airstrip into an "all weather" airstrip.

The Director of Engineering Services will investigate.

24-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Monthly Activity Report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Plant Replacement – Motor Vehicles

Plant replacement quotations have closed. Assessments and recommendations are as on the individual sheets annexed hereto. Due to the high cost of changeovers in eight of the eleven replacements the recommendation is for the cheapest option. Comments are included with the other three recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendations as stated on the evaluation sheets be adopted for motor vehicle replacements.

25-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Brown that the recommendations as stated on the evaluation sheets be adopted for motor vehicle replacements with one alteration, being that the Nissan Navara be replaced at the discretion of the The Director of Engineering Services

MOTION CARRIED

6.3 Boat Ramp – Menindee

A site opposite the Ivanhoe Road T junction appears to be the only possible location for a boat ramp. A site inspection including the taking of levels has been undertaken. The installation of a ramp would be extremely difficult, if at all possible. A detailed survey and design would be required to fully assess the site. As the lowest water level in this weir pool remains constant to construct a ramp extending into the water, as is the case with all boat ramps, would be extremely expensive, is possible but beyond the capabilities of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That a survey, preliminary design and cost estimate be undertaken to assess the feasibility of constructing a workable boat ramp at this location.

26-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Reid, Seconded Clr Arandt that a survey, preliminary design and cost estimate be undertaken to assess the feasibility of constructing a workable boat ramp at this location.

MOTION CARRIED

6.4 Contract for Bitumen Sealing 2006

Tenders closed for the above contract 24th November 2005. Two tenders were received, Pioneer Road Services - \$528,457.16 and RTA Western Sealing - \$549,064.00. Pioneer is some \$20,600 cheaper, holds the current contract and provides a quality service.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the tender of Pioneer Road Services for \$528,457.16 and that the Contract be signed and Council Stamp be affixed as necessary.

27-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Arandt that Council accept the tender of Pioneer Road Services for \$528,457.16 and that the Contract be signed and Council Stamp be affixed as necessary.

MOTION CARRIED

6.5 Information Items

Pooncarie Road – MR 68C

The meeting arranged by the RTA to inspect and evaluate sealing of the Pooncarie Road took place on Thursday 17th November. In attendance were RTA representatives Mr Anan Pavan and Mr Paul Moriarty, Area Maintenance Managers of Western and South West Regions respectively, two engineering staff, Jeremy Rudd and Adam Pullen, from Wentworth Shire Council and CDSC representatives Mayor Ray Longfellow, Clrs Moya Reid and Mike Arandt and myself. A brief meeting/discussion took place outlining the submission history and the RTA construction report/costing. The lack of pavement gravel in this area of the Shire is of major concern. Due to other commitments Mayor Longfellow and Clr Arandt did not participate in the road inspection.

The road was inspected verifying the RTA report with stops at various locations. Unsealed lengths are 68.7km within CDSC and 37.5km within Wentworth. In excess of 50% of the road within CDSC is black soil and flood prone with the remainder including the whole of the Wentworth section higher sandy/red loam country. Extensive lengths within Wentworth have been gravel sheeted with a view to eventually sealing.

Mayor Margaret Thompson and Mr Peter Turner, Operations Engineer of Wentworth joined the group in Pooncarie and further discussion ensued. Luncheon was provided by Wentworth Council.

Conclusion

The RTA personnel now have a better understanding of the concerns and needs of the Menindee community and businesses and have seen this road first hand. However, there is little chance of special grants being forthcoming from the RTA in the immediate future and I feel this meeting was to be seen that the RTA is recognising submissions and requests to have this road bitumen sealed. Continued lobbying of our State and Federal members may be the preferred avenue in an endeavour to procure funding for this road.

Balranald Road – MR67

To construct the Ivanhoe – Balranald road to bitumen seal standard the estimated cost at today's rates would be \$180,000 per km. Assuming construction was to start at the end of the current seal, gravel haul lengths increase as the road progresses increasing the cost by 2% per km and making allowance for annual increases it could be expected that a 5% per km per annum would be reasonable. By constructing in blocks of say 5km, the estimated cost to construct the 32.5km unsealed section would be \$6,750,000.

This road is programmed for \$1,000,000 expenditure next financial year. I suggest the seal be extended 4 - 5km and gravel resheeting be undertaken in sections where needed.

RECOMMENDATION
For Council's Information

SECTION 7. MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

*28-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded
Clr Pease that the Manager of Environmental
Services Report be received and dealt with.*

MOTION CARRIED

7.1 Swimming Pool Update

Menindee

At the time of writing this report, the Menindee Swimming Pool had not yet opened. The delays at Menindee have resulted from the necessity to undertake urgent repairs to the chlorination equipment associated with the pool. Problems with the chlorination system were not evident until early November and staff are endeavouring to rectify the problems as a matter of urgency. Unfortunately, it has taken some time for the necessary replacement parts to arrive, however it is perceived that these problems will be rectified as soon as possible.

Brendan Doyle has been recruited as the Casual Pool Attendant for the Menindee Swimming Pool over the current season, and will commence duties as soon as the pool is ready for opening.

Wilcannia

The Wilcannia Swimming Pool has been open for a number of weeks. Attendance levels have been excellent, with up to 130-150 patrons utilising the amenity at any one given time. Dominic and Serita Jasper have been recruited as Casual Pool Attendants for the current season.

White Cliffs

The White Cliffs Swimming Pool was the first to open for the season with steady attendance numbers on a regular basis. The Casual Pool Attendant for White Cliffs is Mr Neville Dowton. The White Cliffs Pool Committee is still very active in the running of the pool and appreciate the services of a casual pool attendant to lessen the workload of volunteers on the committee.

Ivanhoe

The Ivanhoe Swimming Pool opened in early December after having some difficulties with pumps and chlorination. Work to prepare the facility such as watering of the grounds etc is still ongoing and is being undertaken by Casual Pool Attendant, Michael Flynn. The Ivanhoe Pool Committee is strongly advocating to improve their facility through working bees and Council's assistance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Swimming Pool Update report be received and noted

29-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Pease, Seconded Clr Fisher that the Swimming Pool Update report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

7.2 White Cliffs Working Group Meeting

On Tuesday 6th December 2005, Manager Environmental Services along with Director of Engineering attended a meeting in White Cliffs on dugout tenure issues organised by Department of Lands. The meeting pertained to the ongoing issue of securing freehold tenure over dugout leases. A number of matters were discussed, in particular the preparation of the amendment for Council's Local Environmental Plan (LEP). At this point in time, no further progress can be made on the tenure issue until the amendment is prepared to provide zoning provisions that allow subdivision of each lease area. As previously reported to Council the current zoning of Rural 1(a) does not permit subdivision of land into lots less than 2,000 hectares and each dugout lease would be no greater than 1-2 hectares. The new amendment will address this matter and allow subdivision of these smaller dugout areas. Council previously resolved in September 2005 to undertake this amendment which will now proceed as a matter of urgency as time permits. Council will be kept informed of advancements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the White Cliffs Dugout Meeting report be received and noted.

30-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Linnett that the White Cliffs Dugout Meeting report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

7.3 Wilcannia Waste Depot

At last month's Council meeting, questions were raised in relation to Council's scrap metal agreement with Netwaste. There appears to be some confusion over the amount of funds paid to Council in comparison to the amount agreed upon under the original agreement. The original agreement indicated that Council was to be paid \$151 per tonne for scrap metal waste. When Netwaste contacted Council in late June 2005 expressing a desire to commence extraction of the metal, Council was informed that extraction of the material from piles would be charged to Council as the original agreement was for loose, stockpiled material only. At the July 2005 Ordinary Meeting of Council, costing breakdowns were presented for two different options. At the same meeting Council resolved to undertake Option 1 which would see Council paying for setup and machinery running costs for the duration of the project and Council receive full price (\$151) per tonne of metal extracted. This option was recommended by the Acting Manager Environmental Services at the time as Netwaste had inspected and verbally indicated that in the vicinity of 1,000 tonne of scrap metal was available for extraction at the Wilcannia Waste Depot. At the same time, it was calculated that by undertaking Option 1 Council would be in a better position financially from the scrap metal agreement. (It should also be noted at this point in time that it is extremely difficult to estimate and gauge how much scrap metal is present when most of it is covered in dirt, mixed debris and household rubbish).

Once extraction processes commenced it became evident that the original estimate by Netwaste for available scrap metal was nowhere in the vicinity of 1,000 tonnes, but rather was around 500 tonnes. On this basis, the Acting Manager Environmental Services believed that Council would be better off financially by undertaking Option 2, instead of Option 1 given that the scrap metal capacity of the waste depot had been overestimated. If Council had continued with Option 1, profits would have been in the vicinity of \$7,600 (on 500 tonne). By undertaking Option 2 instead, Council made \$15,541, which is a difference of \$7,941 as only 597 tonne of material was extracted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Wilcannia Waste Depot report be received and noted and Council endorse the actions of staff in accepting option 2 as the most suitable option.

31-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Arandt that the Wilcannia Waste Depot report be received and noted and Council endorse the actions of staff in accepting option 2 as the most suitable option.

MOTION CARRIED

7.4 Proposed Amendment to Local Environmental Plan 2004 – Draft Amendment No. 1 – 1(d) Dugout Zone

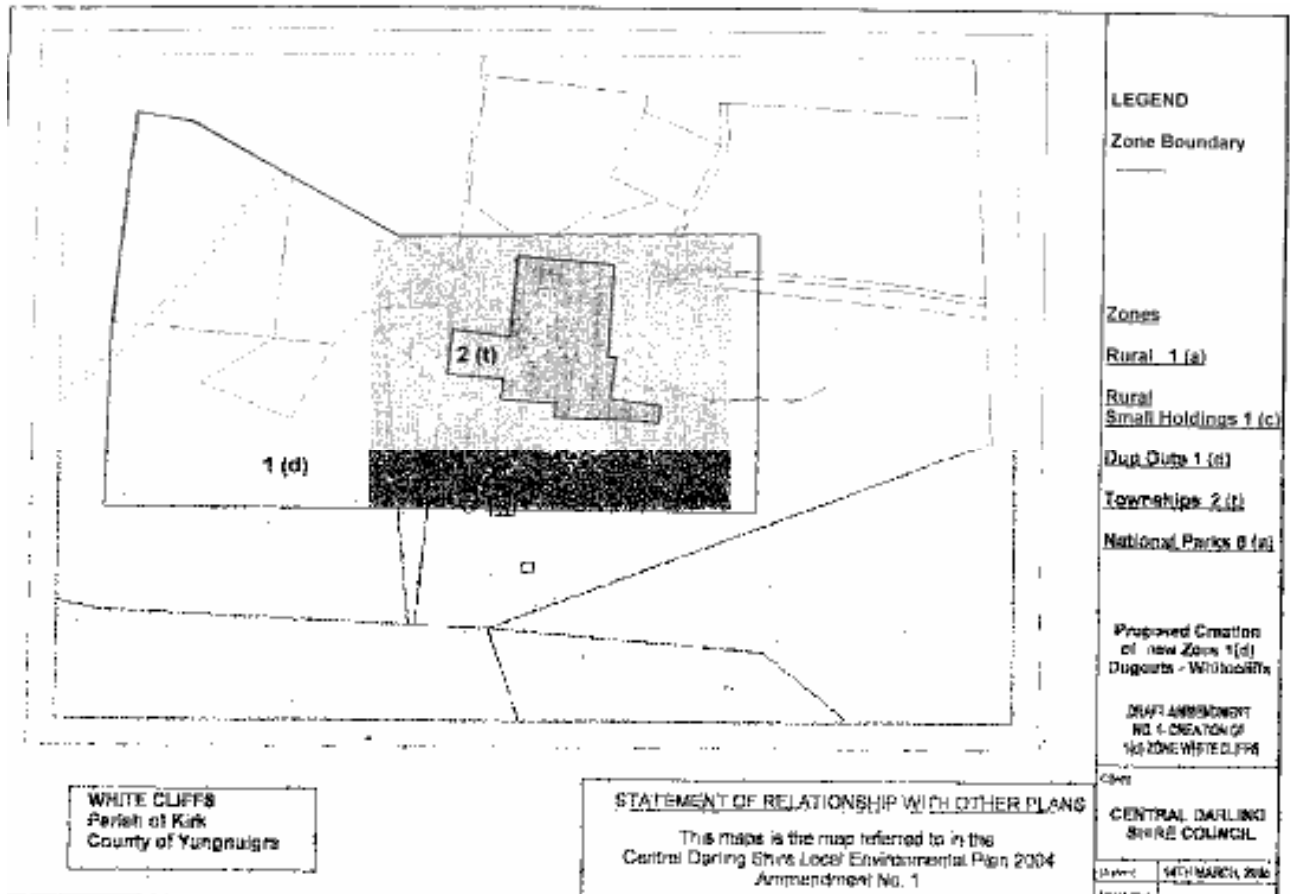
In September 2005, Council resolved to create a new zone 1(d) Dugouts as part of the proposed amendment to the Local Environmental Plan 2004. At the time, a map was presented to Council outlining the proposed area of the new zoning. It has since been noted that the map presented did not cover the new zone area sufficiently to allow for the development of additional dugout accommodation. Discussions with the Acting Manager Environmental Services strongly indicated that Council were in favour of extending the dugout area at White Cliffs for additional dugout accommodation at the time the resolution was carried; however the map adopted does not reflect these intentions. On this basis, it is recommended that the attached map displaying the proposed 1(d) Dugout Zone be adopted to replace the map presented to Council at the September 2005 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the attached map displaying the new proposed 1(d) Dugout Zone under the Local Environmental Plan 2004- Draft Amendment No. 1 be adopted to replace the map presented to Council at the September 2005 meeting.

32-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Doyle that the attached map displaying the new proposed 1(d) Dugout Zone under the Local Environmental Plan 2004- Draft Amendment No. 1 be adopted to replace the map presented to Council at the September 2005 meeting.

MOTION CARRIED



SECTION 8. MANAGER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

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

*33-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded
Clr Arandt that the Manager of Community
Development's report be received and dealt with.*

MOTION CARRIED

8.1 Australia Day Awards 2006

The Central Darling Shire Council 2006 Australia Day Award recipients were voted on by Council at the November 2005 Meeting of Council. All nominees were deserving of the awards however only one nominee from each town in each category could be selected for the award. Congratulations and gratitude to all nominees and winners for their dedication and tireless work in their communities.

The recipients are as follows:

White Cliffs

Citizen of the Year Doug Kennewell

Event of the Year Women's Friday Craft Afternoons

Menindee

Young Citizen of the Year Sienna McInnes

Citizen of the Year Patricia Minns

Wilcannia

Young Citizen of the Year Tom Kennedy

Citizen of the Year Bill Riley

Ivanhoe

Citizen of the Year Olive Huntly

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's information.

8.2 Rural Transaction Centres

The official openings for both the Wilcannia and Menindee Rural Transaction Centres have been postponed to early 2006 due to the availability of the Minister. When available, further information will be provided on the dates for these openings.

Construction is basically complete with some minor cosmetic work remaining to be done. Both Centres are now open to the public and are providing office space and meeting rooms for their communities.

Surveys were sent out along with the Central Darling Shire Council's newsletter to enable the Coordinators of the centres to receive a current idea of the services required by the respective communities. The purpose of the Rural Transaction Centres is to provide services to the community that are at present unavailable. Negotiations are underway with several service providers in response to requests for services already received.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rural Transaction Centres report be received and noted.

34-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the Rural Transaction Centres report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.3 Waste to Art

Since 1990 Australians have been throwing away about 10 million tonnes of waste each year. This means that a lot of 'rubbish' is ending up in our landfills, and it doesn't magically go away. It can sit there for years and years, sometimes for generations, and create more waste in the form of gas and waste water.

In recent years more and more useful materials have been thrown away. You will have heard the saying, one person's trash is another person's treasure, and Waste to Art is a unique example of this.

Waste to Art is an initiative of NetWaste and generously sponsored by Sims Metal Limited. The aim is to challenge people's perceptions about 'rubbish' and to celebrate the re-use and recycling of waste across the region through arts and crafts.

Sixty artworks from across the NetWaste region were exhibited in Mudgee during March 2005 as part of a Regional Waste to Art Exhibition and Competition. This exhibition was the culmination of community workshops and local exhibitions across the NetWaste Region.

Thirteen councils participated in the project in 2004-2005: Bourke, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo, Lachlan, Lithgow, Mudgee, Orange, Parkes, Rylstone, Warren and Wellington. More councils have joined in for 2005-2006: Bogan, Bourke, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo, Lithgow, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Orange, Parkes, Rylstone, Walgett, Weddin and Wellington. This bodes well for the future of this annual Exhibition and Competition.

The artworks showcased at the Regional Exhibition were photographed and are being displayed by councils across the region so that communities can see the incredible work that has been created using materials that no one wants anymore.

Central Darling Shire had 5 entries in the 2005 Regional Exhibition and congratulations go to Paul Sutton, Karin Donaldson, Ron Plunkett and Norm Close.

There has been overwhelming support for Waste to Art to become an annual event and NetWaste is keen to build on past successes. Central Darling Shire has once again taken part in Waste to Art 2005/2006 with our local competition and exhibition. We received 15 entries from Menindee and Wilcannia. All participants have worked hard to be creative and the judging was extremely difficult as the standard of entries was high.

The entries in our local competition and exhibition are as follows:

OPEN 2D:

WINNER - Karin Donaldson - "At the gate of another drought"

OPEN 3D:

Graham Shepherd - "Where to?"

COMMUNITY 2D:

WINNER – Stage 4 Gold Design & Technology - "Computer Man"

Shelly, Stephanie, Kerri-Lee, Emma Slater - "Computer clock"

Alison & Lizzy - "Building the Flag"

COMMUNITY 3D:

WINNER – Simon Nolan - "Chopper"

HIGHLY COMMENDED – Kyia Currie & Natika Whyman - "Miss Piggy"

Mitchell Fennel - "Boat"

Barbara Kemp - "Political Animal"

COMMUNITY CRAFTWORKS

WINNER - Bilyara (Collaborative) – "Recycled tables and chairs"

PRIMARY SCHOOL 2D:

WINNER - Laura Hunter, Kirely Billings, Kelisha Wyman, Ceclia Johnson – "Tom the Junk Man"

Shannah Hunter, Sharraine Hunter - "To cool to be me"

St. Therese's School - "Magic School Bus"

Rikky - "Masked man"

PRIMARY SCHOOL 3D:

WINNER - Dara & Pam - "Security Camera"

The winners of the OPEN 2D, COMMUNITY 2D, COMMUNITY 3D and COMMUNITY CRAFTWORKS categories will be eligible for entry into the 2006 Regional Exhibition.

The 2005 Regional Exhibition photographs and the 2005/2006 current entries are on display at the Wilcannia Rural Transaction Centre for all to see. This Exhibition will travel throughout the Shire in early 2006 prior to successful entries being forwarded to the 2006 Regional Exhibition in Mudgee during March 2006.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Waste to Art report be received and noted.

35-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Arandt, Seconded Clr Brown that the Waste to Art report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.4 Wilcannia Caravan Park

A report on the future options for Central Darling Shire Council to take in the management of Wilcannia Caravan Park is being prepared. This report along with recommendations will be presented to a future Meeting of Council on completion.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Wilcannia Caravan Park report be received and noted.

36-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the Wilcannia Caravan Park report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.5 Old Wilcannia Post Office

Heritage Advisor, Liz Vines, inspected the Old Wilcannia Post Office on Monday 5th December 2005 to prepare a Conservation Management Plan and a submission to the Heritage Department for funding matching Central Darling Shire Council's allotted funds.

Liz Vines indicated that initial funds would be best utilised to secure the building, repair roofing and reinstate the front balcony based on her preliminary inspection. A full report from Liz Vines should be available before the end of December.

Expanded options for the utilisation of the building are being investigated that would attract further funding sources. The vision for the Old Wilcannia Post Office remains the same in that we hope to create a point where tourists and residents alike will be encouraged to stop and call in, a point where they can receive information on the entire shire and surrounding areas, be an accredited Visitor Information Centre and provide a welcoming gateway to our Shire.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Old Wilcannia Post Office report be received and noted.

37-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the Old Wilcannia Post Office report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.6 Wilcannia Rivertowns Project Manager's Report

Wilcannia Interagency: The last meeting was held on the 16th of November at the Hospital meeting room. Several agencies attended including, Greater Western Area Health Service, The Uniting Church, CDEP, Central Darling Shire Council, Department of Juvenile Justice, TAFE, NSW Police, Wilcannia Community Working Party, Wings Drop in Centre, Department of Sport and Recreation and a representative

from the Community Justice Centres. Several items were discussed including:

- **BMX Track-** One of the recommendations from the Youth Round Table report was the construction of a BMX Bike Track. The track is now in its final stages of completion on Crown Land adjacent to Burke Park and the Barrier Highway.
- **RTA Bike Safety Course-** Land has been identified adjacent to the Wings Drop in Centre for a RTA Bike Safety Course promoting road safety messages to the youth of our community. A submission for funding of this project is in the preparation stage.
- **TAFE Courses –** A number of courses are under investigation for delivery in the New Year. These courses include a continuation of the successful RTA driver education module offered this year, with a focus on driver training for trucks. In addition Business Administration and OH&S courses may be offered subject to enrolment.

Carols in Baker Park: A carols night will be held in Baker Park on Friday the 16th of December. The Reverend John Blair of the Uniting Church has accepted an invitation to host the event with all interested community groups encouraged to contribute a musical item or participate in a combined choir for the program. Ms Jeanie Driver of the Wilcannia Central School has developed a program for the event and is in the process of coordinating the participants. The evening commences at 7:30pm with refreshments in the form of a sausage sizzle and soft drinks available for a nominal fee in addition glow sticks will also be available for purchase.

School Holiday Program: Mr Brendan Adams the local Department of Sport and Recreation Officer has submitted a school holiday program to the Department for approval. An extensive list of activities has been developed to encourage activity and participation in this program. Examples of the activities planned include an extreme sports day, day trips to Broken Hill/Menindee, pool activities and discos.

The program is scheduled to run from the 21st of December commencing with a Christmas pool party and conclude on the 1st of February with a Family back to school BBQ.

Sporting Representation from Wilcannia: Congratulations are extended to the participants in the Girls Far West Netball Squad. 7 girls between the ages of 14 -17 attended the selection trials for the Far West Netball Squad held in Warren. Of the 7 girls who attended 5 were chosen to join the team out of a possible 20 places. The Far West Netball Squad comprises one quarter of players from Wilcannia. This is a remarkable achievement that the community can take great pride in. In addition 4 young men from Wilcannia have been selected to join the Rugby League squad.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Wilcannia Rivertowns report be received and noted.

38-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Brown that the Wilcannia Rivertowns report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.7 S355 Committees of Council

The audit of Section 355 Committees of Council remains ongoing. The Manager of Community Development requests the assistance of Council delegates to committees to notify of up-coming meetings of committees.

A Section 355 Committee of Council is established to provide a function of Council. In many instances, the function of Council that current committees actually perform is unclear. A further outcome of this audit has become evident and that is to determine the function, identify its necessity and provide options for future management of the committee and its function.

RECOMMENDATION

That the S355 Committees of Council report be received and noted.

39-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Arandt that the S355 Committees of Council report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.8 NSW Sport and Recreation Local Government Forum

As reported at the November 2005 Meeting of Council, the Manager of Community development attended the NSW Sport and Recreation Local Government Forum in Tocumwal on the 26th & 27th October 2005.

One session, hosted by Susan Bedyka of the Regional Development Company, reported on building community capacity and sustainable communities. The session answered the question "What is community capacity?" The responses were as follows:

- The community's ability to respond to pressures
- Adapting successfully to change and building resilient neighborhoods, towns, cities, farms
- Responding to, and anticipating constant changes that alter local community opportunities
- It is not a goal itself, the goal is what can be done with this capacity
- Difficult to measure – more a matter of being 'sufficient' or 'adequate'
- Dependent on people
- Linked to concepts of social capital (the 'glue' and connections between us in communities); leadership; sustainable communities

- Improving the ability of communities to enhance their quality of life
- Assisting disadvantaged groups in communities to participate in these processes and obtain their fair share of benefits
Gary Moore, NSW Premier's Department
- Working with a community (group of common interest) to enhance their ability to be resilient, adapt to change, be responsive, and even forward thinking

The session continued to elaborate on "How do we know we have community capacity?"

- "The way people feel about their community has the most significant impact on a community's ability to manage change"
Cathy McGowan – "Launching The Success Factors – Managing Change in Regional and Rural Australia report"
- "When a community feels positive, when there is a level of trust, pride, joy, commitment and courage, celebrations, optimism, sense of fun, of involvement, applauding success ... they have managed success"
Ibid
- Interestingly, the same study highlights the special role of volunteers in creating positive feelings in the community
- Where people have a sense of connectedness and inclusion, they are prepared to become involved and these feelings become self-generating

The session provided information on "How to build community capacity" with practical tips and guides.

- "When a community feels positive, when there is a level of trust, pride, joy, commitment and courage, celebrations, optimism, sense of fun, of involvement, applauding success ... they have managed success"
Ibid
- Leadership development ("Community leadership development builds interactions amongst community members and imparts skills and support to continue those interactions to achieve collectively defined goals" *Flora, et al*)
- Shared experiences
- Learning from the past
- Celebrating successes
- Building collaborative partnerships
- It takes some time
- Often, may need outside facilitation and support
- Must be people-focused, but can be developed through projects (or disasters) eg bushfires, community banks, festivals, sporting events, cultural activities
- State wide approach and focus which is shifting to local government
- Links sporting, cultural and recreational projects to community well-being, community development, economic development

The session looked at identifying healthy versus unhealthy communities. The following signs were determined to be identifiers:

| Healthy Community | Unhealthy Community |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Optimism | Cynicism |
| Collaboration | Confrontation |
| Focus on unification | Focus on division |
| We're in this together | Not in my backyard |
| Solving problems | Fighting solutions |
| Consensus building | Polarisation |
| Challenge ideas | Challenge people |
| Problem solvers | Blockers and blamers |
| Trust | Questioning motives |
| Broad public interests | Narrow interests |
| Reconciliation | Holding grudges |
| Focus on future | Re-debate the past |
| Win-win solutions | Win-lose solutions |
| Diversity | Exclusion |
| Listening | Attacking |
| "We can do it" | "Nothing works" |

The session also looked at sustainable communities and how we could improve our communities.

A sustainable community consists of people:

- Having positive expectations of the future – necessary for the ability to manage change
- Having a strong sense of identity and a strong sense of place
- Valuing diversity and being able to communicate well within a diverse group -with good consultation mechanisms
- Understanding teamwork, partnership and the synergy of networks
- Celebrating achievements
- Having 'whole of community' leadership rather than a single person
- Working together in all aspects of life

A guide to improvement can begin with the following points

- Know what other agencies are doing, especially in respect to working with communities
- Ensure good communication exists
- Develop a strong knowledge base
- Identify strengths and determine how to build on these
- Identify weaknesses and determine how to alleviate or overcome these
- Plan together, share, celebrate together

At Central Darling Shire Council, we are following the above guides to promote sustainability and healthy communities in all out towns by establishing partnerships that provide joint visions, a collaborative approach to problem solving and identification of issues, a sense of trust, open communication between all parties, mutual benefit to all parties, a “we can do this together” attitude while maintaining patience and tolerance.

RECOMMENDATION

That the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation Local Government Forum report be received and noted.

40-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Fisher, Seconded Clr Sullivan that the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation Local Government Forum report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.9 Wilcannia Community Youth Project

The Wilcannia Community Youth Project is funded by the NSW Attorney General's under the Safer Community Compact grants. Activities funded by this grant were identified in Central Darling Shire Council's Crime Prevention Plan. A Crime Prevention Reference Group was established on a temporary basis (4 months) to facilitate the preparation of the plan. The Manager of Community Development and the Wilcannia Rivertowns Facilitator is overseeing the implementation of the identified actions.

An interim report on the activities and milestones reached to date has been forwarded to the NSW Attorney General's Department.

Current activity report as follows:

Soundz West - Music Production

To be held in conjunction with Broken Hill and to commence in January 2006 with at least 2 members of the Wilcannia community to develop a functional mini recording studio and be trained in the operation of the equipment. A term of workshops will then follow this training (anticipate 1st school term of 2006) to practice and generate material.

Camera & Computer Workshops

Workshop was held 5-9 October 2005. 15 students participated in the workshop designed to promote leadership and teamwork and to provide technical knowledge of the basic film industry. Further equipment is to be purchased to enable ongoing film production in the community. The workshops were completed with resounding success. Good bonds were formed between students working in groups and 3 short films were produced. It is anticipated that these films may be submitted into film festivals.

Blue Reelers - NSW Police Service

Grant funds have been forwarded from Central Darling Shire Council to Wilcannia Blue Light (Organisers of Blue Reelers in Wilcannia) on 8/8/2005 with notification that funds were to be expended before the end of 2005. A report detailing the full expenditure of funds (including copies of receipts) has been requested on expenditure of funds.

Musical Instruments

Instruments are required for the Soundz West - Music Production workshops. Workshop tutors are to determine the necessary equipment and instruments required early in 2006.

Wings Drop-in Centre Discos

5 discos are to be held in the Xmas 2005 School Holidays. Wings Drop-in Centre staff and the NSW Department of Sport & Recreation's Youth Development Officer will run the discos at the Wilcannia Swimming Pool complex. A sausage sizzle will be provided for all those attending.

Drama Workshops

To be conducted in conjunction with the Soundz West program in 2006.

Basketball Backboard - Bike Ramp - Tennis Wall

A large bike ramp and track has been formed by Central Darling Shire Council on an area of land that was formerly the Wilcannia Showground. Signage for remote supervision is to be ordered and erected by Council staff. The materials for the tennis wall have been gathered and a volunteer workforce to erect the wall is being formed. The basketball backboard location is being finalised.

Discovery Program

This program, based on the Gyalli program established by the NSW Police Service in Walgett, is still being considered by the Wilcannia Police Service. Due to changes in staff at the Wilcannia Station, volunteers from the Police Service will be required to organise the program. Discussions are currently underway.

As the Discovery Program is reliant on the NSW Police Service in Wilcannia, in the event they have no one that chooses to be involved, the program may need to be modified. A Youth Round Table was held in Wilcannia on 7th September 2005. The Wilcannia Interagency have discussed the outcomes of the Round Table report and some actions have commenced. There may be proposed solutions from this Youth Round Table that could take the place of the Discovery Program and we will discuss this further with the Attorney General's Department once the NSW Police Service in Wilcannia have determined the possibility of implementing the Discovery Program.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Wilcannia Community Youth Project report be received and noted.

41-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Wellings that the Wilcannia Community Youth Project report be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.10 Menindee Central School

Cr Mike Arandt and the Manager of Community Development were invited to meet with the Principal, Mr Brian Debus and student representatives of the Menindee Central School to discuss the School's plans and ideas for the future.

Menindee Central School have purchased a railway carriage to be placed on the school grounds and to be utilised as a community radio station. The school has great community support for this project and hopes to expand on it. A second carriage is being sought to provide an art and writing studio complete with a self contained unit for artists or writers in residence. Artists and writers will be invited to stay in the unit for periods of time, during which they will provide the school and community with lessons in the studio.

Menindee Central School has a vision for the future and that vision encompasses the whole community. The Manager of Community Development is working closely with Brian Debus to ensure they are supported in their endeavours.

Year 12 (2006) students plan to work on a small area of Bourke and Wills Park as their annual project to include a lawn section with tables and chairs. The students are preparing a proposal for Council's endorsement in the new year.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Manager of Community Development's actions be endorsed and that Council support the Menindee Central School projects.

42-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Sullivan, Seconded Clr Reid that the Manager of Community Development's actions be endorsed and that Council support the Menindee Central School projects.

MOTION CARRIED

8.11 White Cliffs Public School

Cr Graham Wellings and the Manager of Community Development were invited to attend the White Cliffs Public School Presentation Night for 2005. The staff and students are to be congratulated on a well prepared and organised night. The White Cliffs Public School students were once again a credit to their entire community as they proudly participated in the evening. The students performed a skit called "School Daze" which kept the large crowd amused. Outstanding achievements were made in academic and sporting pursuits throughout the year and Central Darling Shire Council appreciates the opportunity to be part of the School Community.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's information.

SECTION 9. RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Correspondence for Council Information be received and noted

43-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Fisher, Seconded Clr Brown that the Correspondence for Council Information be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

9.1 Media Releases

| Date | Sender | Contents |
|------------|---|--|
| 02/12/2005 | Peter Black Member for Murray Darling | \$37 million for Socio Economic assistance package |
| 02/12/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | Hypotheticals about redistribution unhelpful |
| 30/11/2005 | Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Minister for - Peter McGauran MP | More NSW farmers receive EC drought support extensions |
| 28/11/2005 | Local Government Association of NSW | Local Government rejects developer levy problems |
| 28/11/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | New tool kits for employers and apprentices in Parkes electorate |
| 28/11/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | John Cobb wins extension to EC assistance for local farmers |
| 25/11/2005 | Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | Government grants more time for consultation on planning changes |
| 23/11/2005 | NSW Department of Primary Industries | Murray Cod season opens 1st December |
| 22/11/2005 | Ron Page | Mayor Ron Page calls on State Member to do his job! |
| 18/11/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | Tackling telecommunications |
| 17/11/2005 | Shires Association of NSW - Sydney | Councils demand no exemptions from Sheep ID scheme |
| 16/11/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | John Cobb sets the record straight on Telstra |
| 15/11/2005 | Transport and Regional Services - Warren Truss, Minister | Changes to make Regional Partnerships stronger |
| 14/11/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | John Cobb urges agribusinesses to take up China visits |
| 19/11/2005 | John Cobb - The Hon MP - Federal Member for Parkes | New pharmacy agreement to benefit Parkes electorate |
| 08/11/2005 | Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | \$320,000 for Healthy Local Government Grants Program |

9.2 Circular/Newsletters

| Sender | Date | Contents |
|---|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 09/12/2005 | Local Government Weekly - Issue 49/05 |
| Local Government Assoc of NSW | 02/12/2005 | Local Government Weekly 48/05 |

| | | |
|---|------------|---|
| & Shires Assoc of NSW Local Government Assoc of NSW | 25/11/2005 | Local Government Weekly - 47/05 |
| & Shires Assoc of NSW Local Government Assoc of NSW | 18/11/2005 | Local Government Weekly 46/05 |
| & Shires Assoc of NSW Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 17/11/2005 | 05-68 - Department of Local Government Annual Report 2004- 05 |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 16/11/2005 | 05-67 - Proposed Amendments to the Companion Animals Act 1998 |
| Local Government Assoc of NSW & Shires Assoc of NSW | 11/11/2005 | Local Government Weekly 45/05 |
| Local Government (NSW Dept Of) | 09/11/2005 | 05-65 - Comparative Information publication 2004/05 |

9.3 Letters

| Date | File No | Sender | Regarding |
|------------|--------------|---|---|
| 29/11/2005 | 001-19 -1/6P | Far Western Regional Development Board | Letter of support from the Far Western Regional Development Board regarding the Wilcannia Works Program |

9.4 Minutes

| Date | Sender | Regarding |
|----------|---------------------------|---|
| 11/11/05 | Tilpa Community Committee | Minutes of General Meeting held Sunday 6 th November 2005 |

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

10.1 MANEX Meeting **Page 49-51**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the MANEX Minutes and endorse the actions of the MANEX Team

44-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Arandt, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council adopt the MANEX Minutes and endorse the actions of the MANEX Team.

MOTION CARRIED

10.2 Ivanhoe Revival Group **Page 51-52**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of Ivanhoe Revival Group

45-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Linnett, Seconded Clr Pease that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of Ivanhoe Revival Group.

MOTION CARRIED

10.3 White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee A.G.M **Page 52**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee

46-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Brown that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED

10.4 White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee General Meeting
Page 53

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee

47-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Wellings, Seconded Clr Arandt that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee

10.5 Emmdale Landcare Inc

Page 54-56

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Emmdale Landcare Inc

48-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Doyle, Seconded Clr Sullivan that Council adopt the Minutes and endorse the actions of the Emmdale Landcare Inc.

MOTION CARRIED

10.1 MANEX Minutes – 30th November 2005

MANEX Meeting held on Wednesday 30th November 2005

Present:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr Bill O'Brien | General Manager |
| Mr Tim Hazell | Director of Corporate Services |
| Mr Russell Bow | Director of Engineering Services |
| Mrs Leeanne Ryan | Manager of Environment Services |
| Mrs Sharon Hutch | Manager Community Development |
| Mrs Marilyn O'Brien | Senior Administration Officer |

Meeting Commenced at 3:06 pm

Apologies

There were no apologies

Previous Minutes

There were no issues arising from the Minutes of the 12th October 2005 meeting.

Staff Appointments/Resignations

Long serving Council employee Mick Williams has resigned from the position as Assistant Overseer and will commence in the position of Inspections Officer attached to the Environmental Services Department on a six month temporary role from Monday 12th December 2005.

In accordance with Council practice, at the end of the temporary engagement period this position will be advertised and the formal recruitment procedure followed.

The recruitment process for an Environmental Health Officer and Contract Administration Engineer has commenced.

Victory Park Caravan Park

The Manager of Community Development will prepare a report to Council outlining future management options for Victory Park.

The Maintenance Officer and the Inspections Officer will investigate upgrades to the Amenities Block utilising the funds received from the extended closure of the park and an existing grant received from the Department of Natural Resources.

Christmas Holidays

The General Manager intends to apply for annual leave from 12th December 2005 to 3rd January 2006 inclusive.

The Manager of Environment Services, Director of Engineering Services and Manager of Community Development will remain in town apart from the few days around Christmas.

The General Manager will again seek Council's approval not to conduct a regular meeting during January 2006 in order to allow for Senior Staff and Councillors to enjoy an extended break and expend accrued leave.

Rural Transaction Centre Openings

The official opening of the Wilcannia Rural Transaction Centre has been planned for 21st December, at 11 am, (the day after the Council Meeting) in order to allow those Councillors who are staying over after the Mayor's Christmas Party to attend if they wish. Application will be made to the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DoTaRS) for the appropriate Minister to attend.

The plans for the Menindee Centre opening are currently being finalised for a Community Opening with an open day, and finger food and drinks from 4 pm on Friday 16th December.

General Business

Indigenous Business Opportunity

- The General Manager reported having discussions with the Chairman of the Outback Area Consultative Committee, Mr John Williams, who is also a member of the Sustainable Regions, Darling Matilda Way Board. Mr. Williams has suggested Wilcannia may wish to consider the establishment of a Bakery in the town. According to John there are two successful models in the Northern Territory. Sustainable Regions are looking to fund projects that benefit the whole community and have potential for sustainable employment. The General Manager and Manager of Community Development will organise a meeting with Mr. Williams and others to progress this opportunity.

Vehicle Changeover

- Vehicle for the Inspections Officer currently a Ford Avalon will be regarded to a Toyota Landcruiser.
- Tenders close Thursday 1st December 2005. The recommendations and successful tenders will be put to the December 2005 Council meeting, and provided approval is granted, the vehicle changeover should commence towards the end of January 2006.

Community Banking

- The Barwon Darling Alliance is interested in looking at Community Banking as an alternative to the proposed Credit Union. The Bendigo Bank will be putting forward a presentation at the next BDA meeting on 7th February 2006 at Brewarrina.

West Darling Arts/Wilcannia Arts

- West Darling Arts have been successful in obtaining funding assistance for a 3 year "Artist in Residence" program in Wilcannia. The artists have been selected for the next 2 years.
- West Darling Arts have engaged apart time Administration Officer, this appointment will allow Regional Arts Development Officer, James Giddey to focus more on his role in developing arts programs in the region and to follow up in assisting member Councils prepare their Cultural Plans which is a NSW Government Legislative requirement.

Ivanhoe Working Party

- The General Manager attended the November Ivanhoe Community Working Party meeting. During the meeting concerns were expressed by members that certain areas of Ivanhoe experience severe access problems during wet weather. The meeting was positive and provided Council with the opportunity to present a range of programs currently under consideration and address members concerns. The Ivanhoe Community Working Party is to be commended on the production of their recently adopted Community Action Plan. This is an excellent working document that contains achievable objectives and provides a clear direction for the future
- The Director of Engineering Services is aware there are areas that require an engineering outcome and will investigate a solution.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 4:30 pm

10.2 Ivanhoe Revival Group

Held on 29th September. 2005.

PRESENT: Max Bradley, Faye Kennedy, Clarrie Whitchurch, Tony McNamara, Ray and Meredith Hammond.

APOLOGIES: Fay and Clive Linnett, and Erika Ford.

Moved by Tony McNamara and seconded by Max Bradley that apologies be accepted.

Minutes of previous meeting were read, and moved by Faye Kennedy, and seconded by Max Bradley.

BUSINESS ARISING: The committee decided to include Faye Kennedy to this committee. The committee decided that all letters not answered in regard to the playground, as unable to assist.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance of cheque account - \$5829.62.

\$1071.00 was raised at the bar of the Kilfera Field Day.

Fay and Clive Linnett kindly donated the licence fee of \$50 to our committee. Moved by Clarrie Whitchurch and seconded by Faye Kennedy that treasurer's report be accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clarrie Whitchurch informed the committee that the Golf Club is unable to assist with the funding for the playground centre. Moved by Clarrie Whitchurch and seconded by Max Bradley.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Max Bradley advised committee of very good attendance at the Golf Club working bee. Golf Club to call meeting to elect new committee. It was suggested that an open tournament be organized between March and September.

Ray Hammond reported on the meeting held at Kilfera, regarding sealing of the Cobar/Balranald road. There was a committee elected - Bob Sinclair, Chairman, John Vagg - Secretary and Jim Graham to be spokesman for Balranald end. It was decided to call the road - The Wool Track. It was decided to contact all the large trucking companies to see if they would use the road when sealed.

Ray Hammond spoke to Les Lane, from Murdi Paaki, regarding the feasibility study on meat rabbit industry for Ivanhoe

Clarrie Whitchurch attended a meeting of the CDEP, with Gary Turner, of Summit Personnel, and spoke about Robbie Clark painting garden pots. Faye Kennedy to get list of paint from Robbie.

The planting of trees, both sides of Columbus Street, between Hospital and Golf Course was talked about. To follow up this work with Ray Longfellow. Ray Hammond to get quotes from Premier Nursery for potting mix and 20 bottle brushes to go in pots.

Joe Butler to be contacted re Boucce.

A letter of appreciation to be written to Premier Nursery with regard to the help they gave us for gardening needs.

Moved by Clarrie Whitchurch and seconded by Tony McNamara.

Meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.

10.3 White Cliffs Swimming Pool Committee A.G.M

OPEN: 3.00PM By President Graeme Dowton

PRESENT: Graeme Dowton, Donna-lee Wynen, Annie Clark, Anne Baker, Wendy Dowton, Vicki Dowling and Sonia Tatt

APOLOGIES: Sharon Hutch CDSC

MINUTES: Wendy moved, Sonia 2nd "that the minutes from the previous A.G.M. (11.10.04) were found to be true and correct" CARRIED

TREASURERS REPORT: \$4370.45 still in account still to be audited. Vicki moved, Sonia 2nd that the Treasurers report be accepted. CARRIED

Graeme then thanked the committee members for their help and support over the past 12 months and declared all positions vacant.

ELECTIONS:

President: Graeme Dowton Moved: Wendy 2nd Vicki ACCEPTED

Vice President: Wendy Dowton Moved: Vicki, 2nd Graeme ACCEPTED

Secretary/Treasurer: Vicki Dowling Moved: Graeme, 2nd Wendy ACCEPTED

Committee: Annie Clarke Moved: Wendy, 2nd Graeme ACCEPTED

Anné Baker Moved: Graeme, 2nd Annie ACCEPTED

Sonia Tatt Moved: Graeme, 2nd Donna-Lee ACCEPTED

Donna-lee Wynen Moved: Vicki 2nd Annie ACCEPTED

CLOSED: 3.45pm

10.4 White Cliffs Swimming Pool General Meeting

OPEN: 3.55pm by President Graeme Dowton

PRESENT: Graeme Dowton, Donna-lee Wynen, Annie Clark, Anne Baker, Wendy Dowton, Vicki Dowling and Sonia Tatt

APOLOGIES: Nil

MINUTES: Wendy moved, Annie 2nd "that the minutes from the previous committee meeting, held 11/10/04 were read and found to be true and correct" CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. First Aid Certificates need to be copied, 2 copies required. One to council and on in display book at the pool
2. All contact about the pool to be done through Wendy and Donna-lee. They will then speak to Rod and Tony and visa-versa

TREASURERS REPORT: Balance at 25/10/05 - \$ 4332.35 Wendy moved, Sonia 2nd 'that the treasurers report be received' CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE OUT: Nil

CORRESPONDENCE IN: Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- New Roster
Monday: CLOSED
Tuesday: Donna-Lee
Wednesday: Graeme Dowton
Thursday: Sonia Tatt
Friday: Vicki Dowling/Anne Baker
Saturday: Play by ear
Sunday: Annie Clark
- Closed Mondays for cleaning chemicals
- Water Aerobics 7am to 8.30am
- SIGNS: Graeme to paint blackboard sign and a tin for chalk
- Hire of Pool as before
- Official opening of pool – fun night with sausage sizzle
- Annie Clark may open from 8pm – 10pm on occasions. Unless previously hired
- All Chips lollies and drinks free on opening
- No Child to book up. NO CREDIT unless a supervisor
- Supervisors swim for free, 50c preschoolers, \$1 for school age and adults or \$20/month for a family ticket
- Working Bee Saturday 29th October at 4pm
- Open Day 9th November from 3.30pm All things are free except for pizzas and pie

CLOSED: 4.55pm.

10.5 Emmdale Landcare Inc

EMMDALE LANDCARE Inc.
From the Office of the Secretary
Dianne Elliott Moira Plains Wilcannia NSW 2836
Ph (08) 80919492 Fax (08) 80919440
Email BlackHat2000@bigpond.com



Draft Minutes of Emmdale Landcare Meeting of 19th November 2005
Held at Wilga National Park

Present: B&C Elliott, J&D Elliott, Greg Church, J&S Galloway, Paul Burton, Chris Higgins, Nitschke Family, J&B Blair, Beryl Warboys, M&E Walburn, N&L Howard

Apologies: A&L Farnsworth, Matthew and Adelaide, P&P Sullivan, Viv White, John Lewis.

Moved Beryl W and Seconded Lyn H.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and moved by Chris E and Seconded Greg C.

Business Arising:

- David McKenzie to do electrical inspections – 2-3 places at a time. Cost plus travel \$50/hour. Tagging as well. Bill Drewery now not interested in doing course anymore. Bill Elliott doing course through National Parks.
- Bores – nothing guaranteed.
- Westpac has not paid for the MacCullough's Range sign. Bill to chase up with Westpac.
- Letters re John Blair's Hanger to John Cobb and Peter Black.

Balance Sheet attached

Correspondence: Nil received.

- S355 has been gazetted. Bill E saw Sharon Hutch for consideration for Shire grouping all local ones together. Emmdale members too widespread so want to remain separate group. Bill E to send a letter to Sharon to this affect.

General Business:

- Seed trailer arrived all inclusive. Beryl W put in charge and will locate it at Moorabin. Everyone to supply seeds.
- OH&S signs – Accounts outstanding!!!
- Discussed major project for coming year. One suggestion was a history of each local property to be prepared by individuals. More suggestions wanted.
- John Blair spoke of the progress of the aircraft hangar appeal in both paper work and fund raising.
- Moved John E, Seconded Chris E, that Emmdale Landcare donates \$500 to the fund raising appeal. John Blair gratefully accepted this offer.
- Chris Higgins spoke of the new Native Vegetation regulations as well as funding options from the Catchment Management Board. Contact Chris in Cobar for these options.
- Chris Elliott spoke briefly on the State Landcare and the next conference is in Tamworth in August 2007 in conjunction with Agquip.
- Christmas function – Beryl raised her hand to host the Emmdale Landcare function at Moorabin on Friday 23rd December at 6.30pm. No BBQ – just cold meat, salads and sweets. BYO as usual and Beryl to be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses.

Guest Speaker – Paul Burton spoke and gave an excellent presentation on the Mallee fowl.

Following afternoon tea we were invited for an intensive inspection of the Wilga complex – viewing various sheds – equipment and plant. The odd line was thrown in and the afternoon ended with the traditional BBQ.

Next meeting to be advised.

**EMMDALE LANDCARE GROUP INC
TREASURERS REPORT
19th NOVEMBER 2005**

| | | |
|---|---------------|--------------------|
| Opening Balance as per Bank Statement 159 | | \$ 2,500.84 |
| DEPOSITS: | <u>665.00</u> | 3265.84 |
| EXPENSES: | <u>41.00</u> | |
| Closing Balance as per Bank Statement 166 | | \$3,529.84 |

CASH BOOK

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| Opening balance 19.03.05 | | \$3,265.84 | |
| INCOME: | | | |
| Cookbook | 60.00 | | |
| Interest | 14.00 | | |
| Membership | 180.00 | | |
| Safety | <u>120.00</u> | <u>374.00</u> | 3639.84 |
| EXPENSES: | | | |
| Fair Trading | | <u>41.00</u> | |

CASH BOOK CLOSING BALANCE 19.11.05 **\$3,598.84**

MEMBERSHIP (Financial)

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------|----------|------|
| Moira Plains | Yelta | Burwood/Kewell East | John & Becky Blair | Goonalga | |
| Rosewood | Bushley | Burragan | Moorabin | Volo | NPWS |

ASSETS

P. A. System
 3 Trestle tables
 1 urn
 1 book spiral binder

 30 (approx) cook books

 Cash at bank

SECTION 11. DELEGATES REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Delegates Reports be received and noted

49-12-05 Resolved On the Motion Of Clr Brown, Seconded Clr Pease that the Delegates Reports be received and noted.

MOTION CARRIED

11.1 Cr Clive Linnett

11.1.1 Long Paddock

15th December 2005. The committee are looking at the following matters:

- Finalise panels for RTA compliance
- There is not enough information of significant points of interest
- Prime TV ads to be broadcast on Eastern Seaboard

11.1.2 Wentworth/Balranald Rural Counselling Service

Local Committees to be only advisory from 30th June 2006.

11.2 Cr Moya Reid

11.2.1 Long Paddock

Cr Reid also attended the Long Paddock meeting and reported:

The information received was that 80% of the site plans were completed and that 70% of the research had also been completed.

The long Paddock crosses 5 Shires and the writing of the signage and images to be used are all in hand with printers etc.

Also just as an aside, mention was made of the proposed Burke and Wills Museum in Menindee, and this seemed to be well received by the committee.

11.2.2 Menindee Tourism meeting held on 17/11/05.

Mrs.Cheryl Johnstone was introduced as the new Trainee, under the Barwon/Darling scheme .

Mrs. Mary Wilson asked if the grave site of Dost Mahomet (camel driver for Burke and Wills) could be upgraded and that the signage indicating where the grave site is also be upgraded, and a letter asking same will be sent to Councillor Reid for Council to consider.

11.2.3 Sunset Strip Progress meeting held on the 3/12/05

Complaints received from residents regarding the upgrade of the approach to sunset strip, also that some trees on the Avenue are in need of cutting down.

Residents also wanted to know who was responsible for any damage that may occur due to branches falling off the said trees.

11.2.4 Proposed farm school for Menindee.

Meeting held in John Cobb's office on the 13/12/05 re the above proposal.

Representatives from the Regional Development Board Maari Ma and Dr. Beryl Carmichael, as well as Jenny Clark and Jenny McClelland from Brewarrina were in attendance and all agreed that the project was one that warranted further investigation.

Also attended the opening of the O.A.C.C. building by John Cobb, later the same morning and an apology given for the Mayor, Councillor Ray Longfellow.

11.3 Cr Paul Brown

11.3.1 West Darling Arts

Delegates Report – Cr Brown

West Darling Arts – Meeting Thursday 27th October 2005

This meeting was held at Wentworth at 11 am. The GM who chairs the meeting was spending an overnight in Broken Hill so it was not possible to travel together. A CDSC Council vehicle was available and used for the journey.

1. Strategic Plan and Constitution

As the Board has now been operating for almost 2 years as an incorporated body it is considered time that direction and activities be reviewed.

It has been decided that some strategic planning is required to move the board into the next phase. A session is to be held on the 22nd November.

As part of the process the constitution will be reviewed and membership and representation on the board reviewed.

2. Projects 2005-2006

Wilcannia Arts – Artists in Residence
Regional Youth Aboriginal Art Workshop –Menindee
Palimpsest 6 – Lake Mungo West Darling Region
Travelling Picture Show
Big Screen
Waste To Art 2006-2008
South Site Project –2006
Regional Festival 2006
Unincorporated Area program Development 2006
Research on Cultural Industry Development
Cultural Planning – Member councils

Advice and assistance is also given to a wide range of Cultural groups.

The Board also manages a wide range of grants for Arts.

3. Relocation of the Development Officer.

It was accepted that was accepted that the WDA office would continue to be located in Broken Hill but a trial period the Regional Arts Development Officer RADO (James Giddey) would live in Wentworth.

4. Resignation of Project Officer.

It was reported that the part –time project officer Sue Reynolds had resigned. This could be a major upheaval as Ms Reynolds was a strong supporter of the Wilcannia / Menindee involvement in WDA.

It was decided that a replacement would be sought with administrative experience to free the RADO for more project work.

5. Trip to Sydney

The RADO reported on a visit to Sydney and the visit programme.

Emphasis was placed on those artistic funding bodies and Regional Arts who enable the art programmes to be funded in this region.

6. Financial Reports

The financial reports were tabled. The reports were an improvement on past efforts but still had some finetuning needed. The accounts had previously been monitored and controlled through the Regional Arts NSW Sydney office. They are now being done through Wentworth Shire. It was agreed that the MYOB accounting package be purchased and installed.

7. Lease

It was agreed that the lease due to expire on the offices in Broken Hil (Old Town Hall Façade) be re-negotiated.

8. General Business

As urgent business a proposal was made that West Darling Arts should become a formal member of the Darling to Diamantina Tourist region.

Discussion as to whether or not it was appropriate ensued. Eventually it was decided that WDA would not join Darling To Diamantina although it supported the concepts.

(It should be noted that many of the members of WDA already contribute to Darling cords were found to Diamantina directly. At some time after the meeting reported on here I have been advised that "records" were found that indicated that approx 2 years ago past members of the WDA had agreed to support the project)

SECTION 12. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Vagg

Asked the Director of Engineering Services about the build up on the Cobb Highway and how it is under water for extended periods of time, when will the road be built up?

The Director of Engineering Services said that some sections have already been built up.

Cr MacMillan

Asked will the Code of Conduct training be organised for February.

The Director of Corporate Services replied that it will be in conjunction with the next meeting at 2pm the day before the February Council meeting.

Cr MacMillan also asked about the General Managers Contract as it was suppose to have been looked at in November

The Director of Corporate Services replied that the Mayor and General Manager have discussed that it will be deffered until the February meeting to be discussed then.

Cr Arandt

Asked the Manager of Environmental Services if a Water Bubbler can be purchased for the Menindee Swimming Pool?

The Manager of Environmental Services said that it is being looked into for all swimming pools in the district.

Cr Brown

Asked if signage for the shire and towns can be incorporated at the airports as quite a few tourists are using them at the moment and it can help them know where they are

The Director of Corporate Services said that would be happy to look at signage for the district.

Cr Sullivan

Asked the Mayor that if a Councillor used a Council vehicle to attend a meeting and did not represent the views of Council, should that Councillor then reimburse Council for the travel costs?

The Mayor will investigate

Cr Linnett

Reported to Council that there will be a Sheep Sale in Ivanhoe. Landmark representatives from Broken Hill, Hillston and Ivanhoe will be in attendance.

There are broken pipes at the Saleyards in Ivanhoe. David Russell from Cobar has offered to repair at cost price.

There is a dead tree in Lion's Park that needs cutting down.

The Director of Engineering Services will attend to the matter.

Also asked about maintenance of the Ivanhoe Community Hall.

The Manager of Environmental Services said \$5,000 was spent on the Air Conditioners pads and frames.

**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

The Confidential matter was discussed during the General Manager's Report, see item 4.12

SECTION 16. FIXING DATES AND VENUES FOR NEXT MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12:47pm

The next meeting of council will be held on 21st February 2006 in the Council Chambers, Wilcannia commencing at 9:00am.
