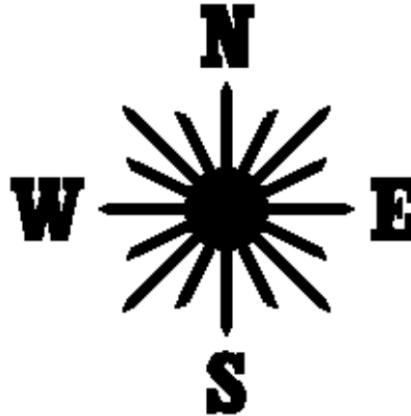


Mission Statement

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 Extraordinary Meeting

Friday 15 February 2019 at 9:00am

At 2 The Grange

Picton NSW

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 Extraordinary Meeting of Council was held at 2 The Grange, Picton NSW on Friday 15 February 2019 commencing at 9:00am.

1 ORDER OF BUSINESS

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SECTION 1. ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Greg Wright Administrator

PRESENT BY SKYPE:

Greg Hill General Manager
Ali Couch Executive Assistant

APOLOGIES:

Bob Stewart Administrator
Reece Wilson Director Shire Services
Jacob Philp Director Business Services

SECTION 2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST – PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY

Nil

SECTION 3. DETERMINATION REPORTS

3.1 WILCANNIA SEWER SCHEME SCOPING STUDY

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council regarding the Wilcannia Township Gravity Sewer Scheme and to provide recommendation to accept funding offer from the State Government.

Background:

Council was successful with an Expression of Interest under the Safe and Secure Water program being administered by the State Government. The next step in the process is to deliver a Scoping Study to:

- identify the precise scope of the project, including reticulation layout to optimise the future operation of the system;
- identify suitable pump station locations, taking into account potential flood risks (Wilcannia is located on the flood plain of the Darling River) and to avoid overly deep trenching for the reticulation. Wilcannia is essentially flat. The existing low pressure pumped effluent system did not require deep trenches. A gravity system would require pipes to be adequately sized to prevent chokes and blockages and of a sufficient gradient to ensure a cleansing flow velocity;
- optimise pump station holding capacity to ensure inflowing sewage can be accommodated in the event of power failures;
- identify upgrades to the sewage treatment works to accommodate the stronger inflow of raw sewage compared to effluent;
- identify the regulatory approvals required for the upgrade of the sewerage reticulation system and potential modifications/upgrades to the sewage treatment works;
- identify all risks and barriers to the project, in particular any aspects of the proposal which would be insurmountable to the project proceeding, or at least prohibitively expensive to overcome;
- identify all stakeholders with an interest in the project and report on their support or otherwise for the project and any conditions to their participation;
- identify all potential benefits and beneficiaries of the project and how those benefits should be quantified in the business case phase;
- provide an indicative timeframe and “ball park” costing for:
 - the preparation of a final business case; and
 - the construction of the gravity reticulation system and associated sewage treatment works infrastructure for the project.

Commentary:

Council has been offered 100% funding to enable completion of the Scoping Study to the value of \$60,000. Formal acceptance of this funding is required, and Council’s Common Seal is required to be affixed to the Final Deed.

The recommendation below reflects Council’s acceptance of the funding offer and complete necessary administrative functions to finalise the Deed.

(a) Policy Implications

Nil.

(b) Financial Implications

Nil.

Funding offered is on 100% basis.

(c) Legal Implications

Nil.

(d) Community Consultation

Nil at this time.

01-02-19

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Resolve to accept the funding of \$60,000 pursuant to the Safe and Secure Funding offer, Grant number RNSW1869 – Wilcannia Sewer Scheme Scoping Study***
- 2. Resolve to affix the Common Seal of Council to the Final Deed.***

RESOLVED

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement for the General Manager to sign the Deed Agreement for the Baaka Cultural Centre and arrange for the Council Seal be applied to the Funding Deed Agreement.

Background:

Formerly known as Knox and Downs, a well-known landmark for its historic and social connection to the district, located at 44 Reid Street, Wilcannia, the building was devastated by fire in the early 2000s. Since the fire the site has been left in disrepair, boarded up and scaffolding used to support the remaining structure. Recently the Baaka Corporation advocated for the redevelopment of the site.

The development of the Baaka Cultural Centre will be a contemporary, vibrant and interactive showcase of Barkandji culture. It will be a place of learning, identity, community cohesion, social, economic and environmental wellbeing for all. The Baaka Cultural Centre will strive to be a self-sustaining enterprise with exceptional governance and academy standard management practice. It will be focal point for community activity and a destination of choice for educators, students, researchers and tourists alike. "A key driver of Baaka's activities is the repository for 'movable cultural heritage' of the Barkandji and the multiple ramifications that will flow for the socio-economic benefit of community, Wilcannia and the far-west region".

Baaka Cultural Centre Project Scope:

- Deliver a Cultural Centre for the Barkandji people to practise their living culture, including art, recorded history, and tradition;
- Provide a keeping place for Barkandji tangible and intangible artefacts, language, and memories which will otherwise be lost, preserving them for future generations;
- Support inter-generational and inter-cultural teaching through the keeping place and language programs and partnerships with local schools and research institutions;
- Provide training and employment opportunities, particularly for the young people of the Aboriginal community;
- Develop a keystone enterprise that can leverage the significant economic opportunity present in the flow of tourists through Wilcannia to support and revitalise other businesses in town; and
- Restore a sense of pride, ownership, and culture to the entire community by refurbishing the derelict heritage Knox and Downs building.

Commentary:

The Deed Agreement from the New South Wales Government is for the Central Darling Shire which is the recipient of \$3,500,000 on behalf of Recipient Representative, the Baaka Association.

Bob Constantine (Baaka Association) is Project Director for the development of the Culture Centre under the guidance of NSW Public Works Advisory as Project Manager, and holder of the funding on behalf of Central Darling Shire.

The Funding Deed Agreement from the NSW Government is for \$3,500,000, conditional on receiving co-contribution of the same amount from the Federal Government, totaling \$7,000,000. If co-contribution funding from the Federal Government is not forthcoming, it is highly likely that this project will not proceed.

There is now a sense of urgency in finalising and ratifying the Funding Deed Agreement, due to the forthcoming State Elections and caretaker mode commencing the 1 March 2019. There is a certain level of risk in not finalising the deed agreement as change of State Government could see the project abandoned, or if the current government is re-elected time has been lost to further lobby the Federal Government for their co-contribution prior to Federal Election mid-year.

Summary:

This report is for Council to endorse the Council Seal to be applied and the General Manager to sign the Funding Deed Agreement so that the documents can be returned for ratification prior to the NSW Government going into caretaker mode. Refer to Attachment 1 for Draft Funding Deed Agreement.

(a) Policy Implications

Nil.

(b) Financial Implications

No financial implications for endorsement of Seal and General Manager signing the Funding Deed Agreement.

(c) Legal Implications

None which presently aware of in reading the Funding Deed Agreement.

(d) Community Consultations

Not required.

02-02-19

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council receives the Baaka Cultural Centre Funding Deed Agreement report.***
- 2. That Council endorse the Council Seal to be applied to the Baaka Cultural Centre Funding Deed Agreement.***
- 3. That Council endorse the General Manager to sign the Funding Deed Agreement.***

RESOLVED

SECTION 4. DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday 27 February 2019 in Wilcannia at 9:00am.

The Extraordinary Meeting was declared closed at 9.02am.