



G W Y D I R
SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING

GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2020

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ROXY MEETING ROOM, BINGARA

Present:

Councillors: Cr. John Coulton (Mayor), Cr. Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM, Cr. Jim Moore, Cr. Geoff Smith, Cr. David Coulton, Cr Stuart Dick, Cr Tiffany Galvin and Cr Frances Young

Staff: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Leeah Daley (Deputy General Manager), Helen Thomas (Manager, Finance), Alex Eddy (Manager, Engineering Services) Tim Greensill (Manager, Information Services) and Ruby Mitchell (Trainee)

Public: Mrs Rachel Sherman and Mrs Kim Miller (*Gwydir News*)

Visitor: Nil

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Chairman

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OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME – MAYOR

APOLOGIES No apologies

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 242/20**

THAT the Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2020 as circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr Galvin, seconded Cr Egan)

PRESENTATION Nil

CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Egan declared a less than significant pecuniary interest in Item 4 Gwydir River Foreshore Management Plan as a neighbouring property owner.

Crs. D and J Coulton declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 2 Recommendations from the Standing Committee Meetings due a relative having a Development Application mentioned in a Committee Report.

Cr Moore declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Warialda Rotary Club in Item 6 Correspondence from Rotary Club of Warialda.

ADDITIONAL/LATE ITEMS

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 243/20**

THAT the following items, namely:

- 1. Dissemination of Council Information (Confidential)**
- 2. Annual Report 2019-2020**

are accepted as late items onto this Agenda for discussion.

(Moved Cr D Coulton, seconded Cr Young)

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS
COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 244/20**

THAT the Council resolve into Confidential Session, Committee of the Whole and that in the public interest and in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the public and press be excluded from the meeting to consider the Items on the agenda.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Dick)

ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 245/20**

THAT the recommendations of the Confidential Session, namely:

Item 1 Roxy Complex (Ref: 246/20)

THAT the report be received and option 2 be pursued.

Cr Galvin requested that her name be recorded as voting against this motion in the Confidential Committee

Item 2 Warialda Road Coolatai - Friable Asbestos (Ref: 247/20)

THAT the report be received

FURTHER:

- i) the property transfer is acknowledged**
- ii) the required remediation work is completed as soon as practicable**
- iii) the property be classified as operational land allowing its disposal and that the property is put on the market for sale, post remediation**

Item 3 Adoption of Recommendations from the Confidential Community Services and Planning Committee meeting of 08 October 2020 (Ref: 248/20)

THAT the recommendations from the Confidential Community Services and Planning Committee meeting 08 October are adopted

Sale of old Bingara Shire truck and Original Roxy Café furnishings (Ref: 249/20)

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Chairman

THAT the report be received and Mr Betts be advised that the Council declines his offer.

Closed Organisation and Community Services Report for September 2020 (Ref: 250/20)

THAT the Closed Organisation and Community Services report for September 2020 be received.

FURTHER that the staff investigate the ongoing need for the provision of a locally based air conditioning re-gassing service for vehicles and whether the Council could fulfil this need if established as financially viable (Ref: 251/20).

Item 4 Minutes of the Consultative Safety Committee Meeting (Ref: 252/20)

THAT the report be received

Item 5 Thank You letter - Country Education Foundation Gwydir (Ref: 253/20)

THAT the report be received

Item 6 Dissemination of Council Information (Ref: 254/20)

**THAT the report be noted
are adopted.**

(Moved Cr Galvin, seconded Cr Smith)

Item 1 Councillor Activity Statement for September 2020

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 4. Proactive Regional and Local Leadership

OUTCOME: 4.1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED & CONNECTED COMMUNITY

STRATEGY: 4.1.2 Enable broad, rich and meaningful engagement to occur - GM - external

The Councillors' activity schedule for September 2020 is outlined below:

September, 2020		
Councillor	Event	Date
Cr J Coulton (Mayor)	Adam Marshall visit – Warialda Showground	2 nd Sept.
	Quarries Meeting - Warialda	2 nd Sept.
	QLD- NSW Border Closure update – Teams Meeting – Caroline MacSmith	3 rd Sept.
	Namoi Unlimited Workshop Directions	4 th Sept.
	Transport NSW Teams Meeting	8 th Sept.
	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Senior Staff and Mayor Meeting	15 th Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.
	NEJO Meeting - Inverell	28 th Sept.
Cr Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor)	Disability Access Committee Members street walk - Bingara	4 th Sept.
	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Disability Access Committee Meeting – Bingara Library	18 th Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.
Cr David Coulton	Adam Marshall visit – Warialda Showground	2 nd Sept.
	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Bushfire Management Committee Meeting - Narrabri	23 rd Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.
Cr Stuart Dick	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Warialda Historical Society Meeting	17 th Sept.
	Bushfire Management Committee Meeting - Narrabri	23 rd Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.
Cr Dixon OAM	Disability Access Committee Meeting – Bingara	4 th Sept.

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	Library	
	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
Cr T Galvin	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Country Education Fund (CEF) Gwydir AGM and Ordinary Meeting - Warialda Chambers	14 th Sept.
	CEFA (CEO visit) Bingara Council Chambers	28 th Sept.
Cr J Moore	NSLA Board - Zoom meeting	1 st Sept
	Xmas carnival meeting – Warialda Council Chambers	3 rd Sept.
	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	ABC Tamworth - Warialda	15 th Sept.
	Warialda Historical Society Meeting	17 th Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.
Cr G Smith	Committee Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.
Cr F Young	NSLA Board - Zoom meeting	1 st Sept.
	Committee Meeting- The Roxy Conference Room	10 th Sept.
	Murray Darling Assoc virtual 76 th National Conference & AGM – Bingara Chambers	14 th – 16 th Sept.
	Disability Access Committee meeting – Bingara Library	18 th Sept.
	CASP grant application – Bingara Courthouse	23 rd Sept.
	Ordinary Council Meeting – The Roxy Conference Room	24 th Sept.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 255/20**

THAT the report be received.

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Smith)

into the overall Bingara CBD Improvement Plan being developed where considered appropriate

Correspondence from The Order of Australia Association

THAT the report be received and Council contact Mr Butler OAM requesting more detail as to what expectations the group may have of Gwydir Shire if the Council agrees to its involvement in the scheme.

THAT the following Councillor Reports be noted:

Cr G Smith – Warialda Historical Museum sign

Clean-up of old Council depot site

Correspondence from Minister Elliott

Additional grant funding for Warialda Bypass project

Cr J Moore – Street flags in Warialda

Maintenance work on Oregon Road

Cr S Dick - Gineroi Fire Shed

Permits required for lighting fires

Cr T Galvin - Motivational speaker, Justin Herald

Industrial land at Warialda usage

Cr F Young - Arts North West vising Bingara

Power to land for sale in Bingara

Cr C Egan - Bingara depot relocation

Cr D Coulton Proposed Warialda Park

Cr J Coulton funding for roads

THAT the member for Parkes, The Hon Mark Coulton MP be thanked for his continuing excellent representation on behalf of the northern part of Gwydir Shire.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION: MINUTE 256/20

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Chairman

THAT the recommendations from the Standing Committee Meetings held of 08 October 2020 be accepted:

Public Infrastructure Committee (Ref: 257/20)

THAT the monthly Technical Services report for September 2020 be received

Community Services and Planning Committee (Ref: 258/20)

THAT the monthly Executive Report for September 2020 be received

THAT the monthly Organisation and Community Services report for September 2020 be received

Container Deposit Scheme (Ref: 259/20)

THAT Council negotiate the termination of the current contract with Tomra

FURTHER that the Warialda APEX and Rotary Clubs be approached and encouraged to consider taking on the ongoing provision of the container deposit scheme

Disability Access Committee (Ref: 260/20)

THAT the report be received and that the improvements recommended by the Committee be referred to staff for inclusion into the overall Bingara CBD Improvement Plan being developed where considered appropriate

Correspondence from The Order of Australia Association (Ref: 261/20)

THAT the report be received and Council contact Mr Butler OAM requesting more detail as to what expectations the group may have of Gwydir Shire if the Council agrees to its involvement in the scheme.

THAT the following Councillor Reports be noted (Ref: 262/20):

- Cr G Smith – Warialda Historical Museum sign**
 - Clean-up of old Council depot site**
 - Correspondence from Minister Elliott**
 - Additional grant funding for Warialda Bypass project**
- Cr J Moore – Street flags in Warialda**
 - Maintenance work on Oregon Road**
- Cr S Dick - Gineroi Fire Shed**
 - Permits required for lighting fires**

**Cr T Galvin - Motivational speaker, Justin Herald
Industrial land at Warialda usage**

**Cr F Young - Arts North West vising Bingara
Power to land for sale in Bingara**

Cr C Egan - Bingara depot relocation

Cr D Coulton Proposed Warialda Park

Cr J Coulton funding for roads

**THAT the member for Parkes, The Hon Mark Coulton MP be
thanked for his continuing excellent representation on behalf
of the northern part of Gwydir Shire (Ref: 263/20).**

(Moved Cr Moore, seconded Cr Galvin)

Item 3 Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report for September 2020

FILE REFERENCE 20/24423

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.1 Financial management and accountability systems - CFO - internal

AUTHOR Manager, Finance

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

At each monthly Ordinary Meeting, the Council is presented with the schedule relating to Investments, as at the end of the previous month.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Clause 19(3) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, the following information provides details of Council's funds invested as at 30 September 2020.

Direct Investments

Broker	ID	Investment Name	Rating	Type	Next Rollover	Yield	Current Value
NAB	2020.16	NAB	AA	TD	27/10/2020	0.75%	\$1,000,000.00
NAB	2020.17	NAB	AA	TD	27/10/2020	0.75%	\$1,000,000.00
NAB	2020.18	NAB	AA	TD	27/10/2020	0.75%	\$1,000,000.00
Grand Total							\$3,000,000.00

Managed Funds

Fund	Investment Horizon	Type	3 Mth Avg Yield	Current Value
Regional Australia Bank	At Call	Cash	See report	\$402,187.46
Tcorp Cash Fund	At Call	Cash	See report	\$4,343,000.70
Tcorp Medium Term Fund	At Call	Cash	See report	\$1,059,209.15
Grand Total				\$5,804,397.31

Total Investments

Direct Investments	\$3,000,000.00
Managed Funds	\$5,804,397.31
Grand Total	\$8,804,397.31

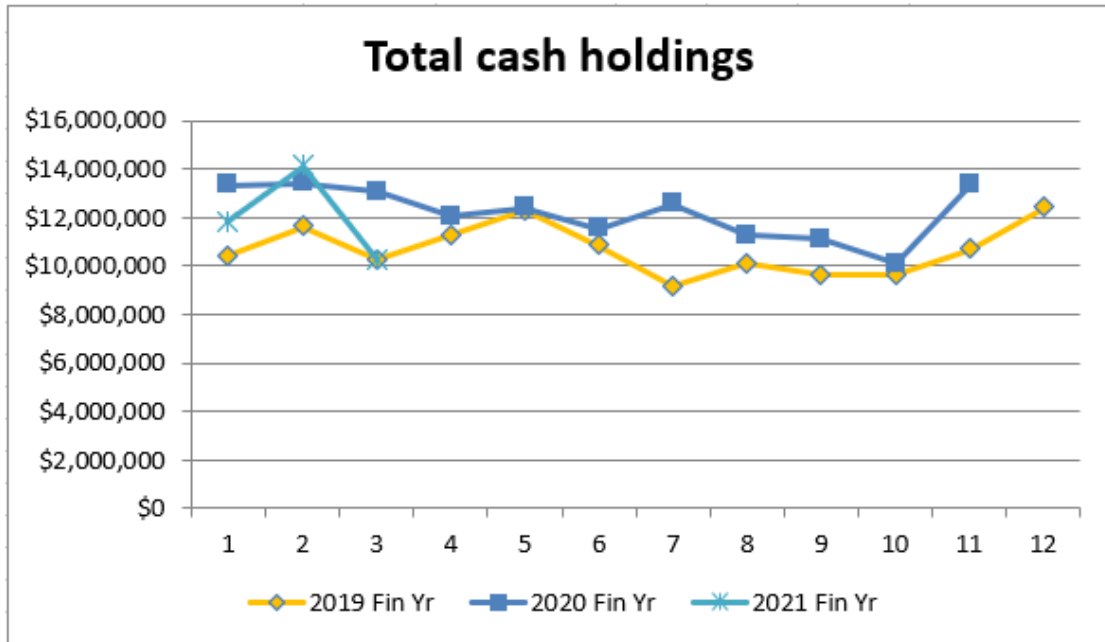
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Chairman

Cash and Investments	
Total Investments	
Direct Investments	\$3,000,000.00
Managed Funds	\$5,804,397.31
Grand Total Investments	\$8,804,397.31
Total Cash and Investments	
Investments	\$8,804,397.31
Cash at bank	\$ 1,437,096.71
Grand Total Cash and Investments	\$10,241,494.02
General Fund Cash	
Total cash and investments	\$10,241,494.02
LESS:	
Water fund*	-\$583,285.67
Sewer fund*	-\$1,786,975.86
Waste fund*	-\$1,898,109.54
Other restrictions:	
Employee leave entitlements*	-\$900,000.00
Carry over works in progress*	-\$850,000.00
Asset replacement*	-\$1,200,000.00
Bonds and deposits	-\$1,696,126.10
Unexpended grants*	-\$871,000.00
Developer contributions	-\$291,000.00
*These figures may change with end of year processing	
Discretionary General Fund Cash	\$164,996.85

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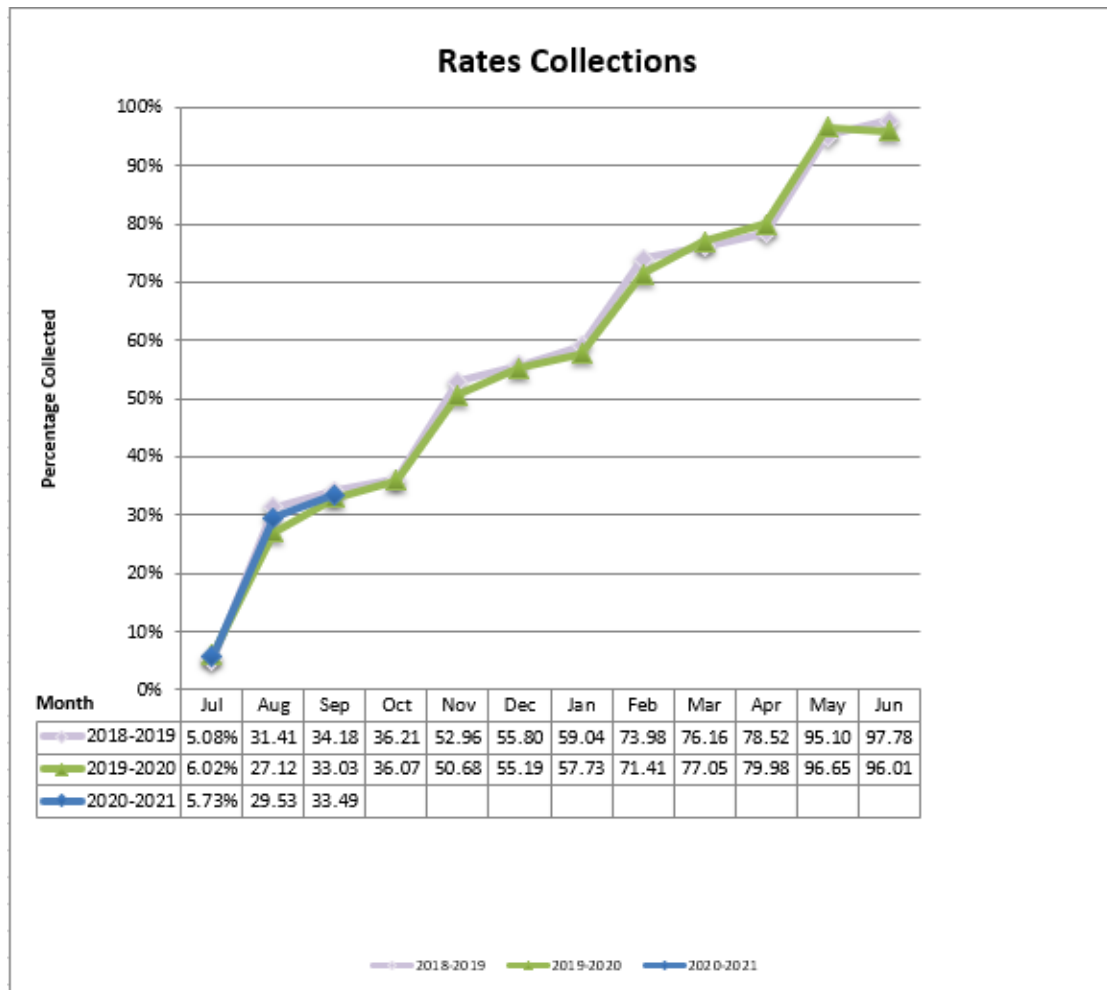
Chairman



I, Helen Thomas, Finance Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer for Gwydir Shire Council, certify that the Council’s investments have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council’s Investment Policy, as amended.

RATES COLLECTIONS

The graph below represents a comparative of the percentage collections for the current year against the two previous rating years. The current years collections are up to 30 September 2020.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the monthly Investment and Rates Collection report for September 2020 be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 264/20**

THAT the monthly Investment and Rates Collection report for September 2020 be received.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Dick)

Item 4 Gwydir River Foreshore Management Plan

FILE REFERENCE 20/24424

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 1. A healthy and cohesive community

OUTCOME: 1.1 WE HAVE HEALTHY AND INVITING SPACES AND PLACES

STRATEGY: 1.1.3 Provide the right places, spaces and activities - OCD - external

AUTHOR General Manager

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST The General Manager has an interest in land (2 Gwydir Street, Bingara) adjacent to the foreshore Reserve.

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

This report recommends the adoption of the Draft Gwydir River Foreshore Management Plan.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

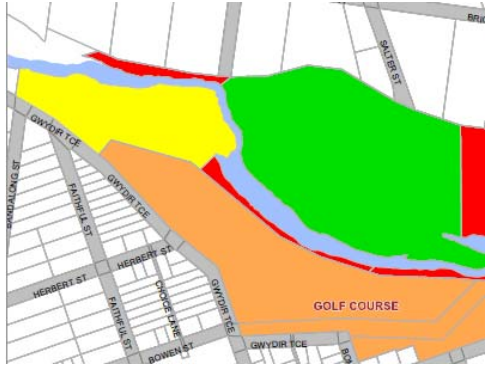
BACKGROUND

This draft plan was initially presented to Council in February 2017 followed by a revised plan tabled at the February 2018 Council Meeting.

From these meetings various issues were raised, which have now been addressed and are outlined below.

The revised Draft Management Plan is attached for adoption and presentation to Crown Lands for its endorsement. The Draft Plan covers the foreshore of the Gwydir River including within the Bingara Town Boundary.

The areas that allow camping are outlined below:

Location Name	Plan
<p><u>Location 2 Faithful</u> Area shaded yellow. This location is for event only camping that has been pre-booked.</p> <p>Location 1 Gwydir River Common Area shaded green. This location permits camping for up to 7 days.</p>	

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Chairman

Location 1A Event Camping

Area shaded yellow north of the river adjacent to Gwydir Street. This location is for event only camping that has been pre-booked.

Location 3 Boat Ramp

Area shaded yellow south of the river. This location is for event only camping that has been pre-booked with the Bingara Anglers' Club.



COMMENT

From February 2018 Council Meeting

- **The positioning of honesty boxes, to be collected daily, at better defined and sealed entry access roads into the various camping sites**

Commercially made honesty boxes were investigated. A suitable style for Council's needs was not available. Council's fabricator would be able to construct something to suit. Budget has not been allocated to schedule the works in.

The entry access roads are sealed into the Gwydir River Common, the Boat Ramp and Gravel Screen Reserves.

The Gwydir River Common is sealed from the White Street entry gate for 700m to the camping ground. The Boat Ramp is sealed from the entry gate for 100m. The Gravel Screen is sealed from the entry gate for 100m. (Included in updated plan under 1 Access Roads)

A number of large compliance and interpretive signs have been installed in the Reserves. To prevent signage overload and fatigue some alternate approaches have been taken to encourage and ensure compliance. Native tree plantings have been used to restrict camping and traffic access to some areas and river crossings.

- **The redeployment of an existing staff member into the role of a second Ranger to undertake the supervision of the Gwydir Foreshore area and other matters within the southern part of the Shire**

A second Regulatory officer has been appointed to undertake the supervision of the Gwydir Foreshore area and other matters within the southern part of the Shire. (Included in updated plan under 4 Compliance Issues)

- **The development of a standard design for signage to convey relevant information to people visiting the Foreshore area, including the unacceptable activities that may attract on-the-spot fines**

There is standard signage advising of camping restrictions, obligations and dangers at each camping area and this is actively monitored and enforced. (Included in updated plan under 4 Compliance Issues and Appendix 3)

- **The length of stay allowable outside the town limits is to be no greater than 28 days in any period of 3 months**

There is standard signage for camping 'length of stay' of seven (7) continuous days at sites within the Bingara designated town boundary and a combined length of stay at any Gwydir Shire free camp sites must not exceed 28 days in any 3 month period. (Included in updated plan under 3 Camping Issues)

Due to the severe drought conditions the duration of stays has been extended in the seven (7) day limit areas. The Regulatory staff monitoring daily.

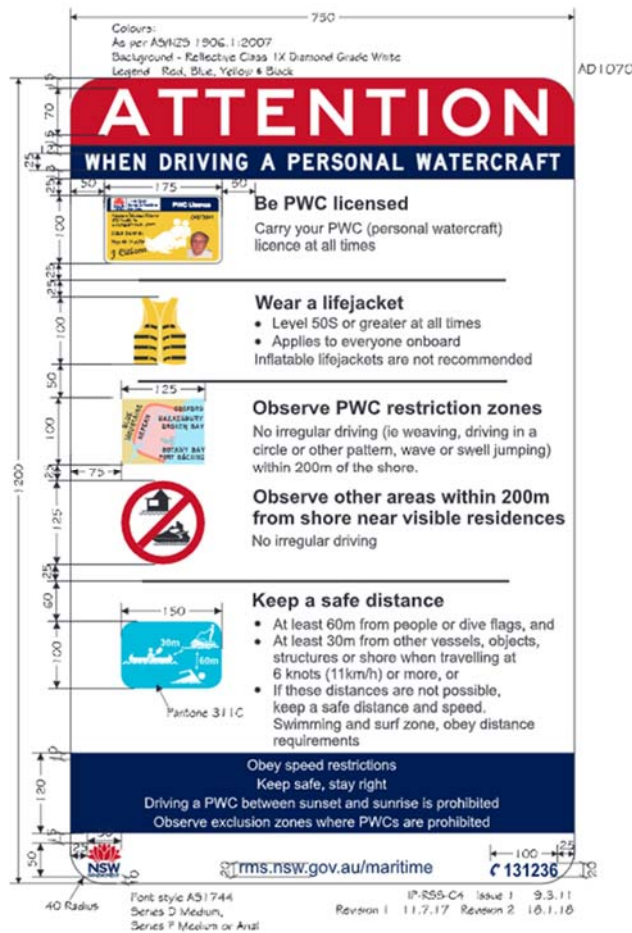
- **Within the town area all campers must be located greater than five (5) metres from the river bank**

Most campers set up back from the riverbank by five (5) meters or more. Due to the changing of the river's edge this can difficult to enforce. Ongoing monitoring will continue and issues identified and actioned. If the issue escalates, signage and enforcement will be explored.

- **The banning of Jet Skis and a suitable speed restriction for motorised craft be investigated with the appropriate authority**

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is the appropriate authority. They have indicated that their preference is for regulation and management of activities rather than banning. Council's request for a ban has been submitted. Whilst the ban is being considered, signage has been supplied and installed, and the requested scheduling of the TfNSW boating officer to visit the area during peak times was made in 2019.

Signage from TfNSW. (Included in updated plan under 8 Unregistered and Unauthorised Vehicles)



- **The approval process to allow for the removal of debris and other impediments within the river that restricts the flow be investigated together with the preliminary work required to undertake a feasibility plan for a weir within the town boundary, constructed along the river in a suitable location**

Permit has been issued from Crown Lands to remove Willows.

Pontoon installed. (Included in updated plan under 2 Environmental Issues and 9 Town Parks and Reserves)

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- **That the camping locations allowed within the draft Foreshore Plan be numbered and allocated a name for ease of identification. Each particular location will have its own unique characteristics outlined, such as whether it is for event camping only, available for camping without ablution facilities, communal fire pit, etc.**

The camping locations are numbered and allocated a name for ease of identification. Each particular location has its own unique characteristics outlined. See attachment Compliance Signs and Attachment Entry Signs. (Included in updated plan under 5 Recreational Users and Appendices 3 and 4)

- **That a nuisance and noxious weed eradication plan be developed for the Gwydir Foreshore Reserve and that grant funding from the Environment Trust or Reserve Trust be sought to implement the plan**

A weed control plan has been developed for the Gwydir River camping areas. Grant funding from the Environment Trust and Reserve Trust is being sought to implement the plan. See Appendix 1 Gwydir River Management Plan: Weed Control. (Included in updated plan under 2 Environmental Issues)

- **That the Shire's Service Clubs be requested to consider the best way to provide wood for the use of campers**

Standard signage prohibits the felling of trees and collection of firewood. Campers are able to access local suppliers for firewood. The Shire's Service Clubs did not reply to the request to consider the best way to provide wood for the use of campers. (Included in updated plan under 2 Environmental Issues)

The Bingara Anglers Club and Bingara Lions Club were contacted with an invitation to submit a proposal for provision of firewood but did not respond to the request.

- **The draft plan addresses the issue of better controlling the movement of horses throughout the town area foreshore after discussing the issue with Mr John Wade**

Management of horses, unrestricted access to environmentally sensitive areas, conflict with users, unrestrained populations, and containment issues with horses escaping.

Council's officers are monitoring the management of horses. The administration, fencing and access of horses is actively enforced. (Included in updated plan under 6 Possible Conflict Issues)

Council officers have worked with Mr John Wade about issues with the grazing, care and health, feeding, access, and blocking access and will continue to actively work with Mr Wade to manage these issues.

From February 2017 Council Meeting

1 Access Roads

- **Install signage limiting speed to 15 km/hr and monitor/enforce**

Completed.

- **Install one-way signage and monitor/enforce**

Pending.

- **Install signage restricting vehicular usage to certain roads or pedestrian/bike only tracks and monitor/enforce**

Pending.

- **Install signage requesting limiting driving off formed tracks and monitor/enforce**

Planting of native trees and shrubs has been used to block some tracks, limiting the need for additional signage at this stage.

- **Install signage to restrict river crossing in areas by vehicles and monitor/enforce**

An alternative mode of planting of native trees and shrubs was used to block access to some crossings. This diverted vehicles to alternative crossing points. Any restrictions at crossings points will likely cause further alternative crossings to be used. Signage installation is pending.

- **Install barriers such as rocks to limit vehicle access**

Planting of native trees and shrubs has been used to block some tracks, limiting the need for additional signage at this stage.

- **Install signage requesting to limit/or restrict access in wet weather and monitor/enforce**

Signage is pending; due to the drought there has been minimal impact from this issue.

2 Environmental Issues

- **Install signage restricting camping within 20m from the river bank/edge and monitor/enforce**

This has been superseded by subsequent recommendation. Within the town area, all campers must be located greater than 5 metres from the river bank (see above).

- **Install signage restricting collection of firewood and kindling and monitor/enforce. Investigate the most appropriate way to provide firewood including the sale of firewood in partnership with users and/or National Parks and Wildlife**

Signage installed. See above for details for sale of firewood.

- **Install signage restricting the clearing of campsites and monitor/enforce**

Interpretive signage designed by the Gwydir Ark has been installed.

- **Install signage restricting the removal of flora, fauna and rocks and monitor/enforce**

Interpretive signage designed by the Gwydir Ark has been installed. See Appendix 2.

3 **Camping Issues**

- **Install signage restricting camping to a maximum of seven (7) continuous days at all sites within the Bingara designated town boundary and monitor/enforce**

Completed.

- **Install signage restricting camping to a maximum of 14 continuous days at all sites outside the Bingara designated town boundary and monitor/enforce**

Superseded (see above) new signs have been installed. Completed.

- **Introduce a 'no go' rotation of sites to be 'rested' to allow for rehabilitation**

Ongoing. Rehabilitation of sites is implemented as needed. The area is sectioned off with temporary posts and signage restricting access. The inclusion of interpretive signage will inform the public of the reason for the restriction to the area. The COVID-19 travel restrictions allowed the campsites to rest and rehabilitate for the period.

- **Install signage and maintain the current event-only camping area that limits access and allow exclusive access to the Boat Ramp section by the Bingara Anglers' Club and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

- **Review the need to have a camping fee in June 2018 following the suggested capital improvements**

The review is postponed until such time as funding for the capital improvements has been secured.

- **Continue discussions with Campervan and Mobile home Club of Australia (CMCA) regarding a possible partnering arrangement**

Ongoing discussion with Tourism and Economic Development Department.

- **Facilitate grazing where appropriate to keep the grass down**

Ongoing.

- **Slash sites as needed/requested**

Ongoing.

4 Compliance Issues

- **Install signage advising of camping restrictions and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

- **Install signage advising of campers' obligations and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

- **Install signage advising of camping dangers and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

5 Recreational Users

- **Install signage advising of dangers and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

6 Possible Conflict Issues

- **Install signage advising of dangers/obligations and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

- **Restrict access of horses through better administration, fencing and monitor and enforcement**

See above. Ongoing monitoring.

7 Public Amenities

- **Install compostable toilets at suitable locations**

Installation of compostable toilets at suitable locations will be undertaken when suitable funding becomes available.

- **Keep the camp sites as basically 'primitive' with sufficient facilities to minimise environmental damage**

An awning with tables, seating and a bin has been installed at the boat ramp area. Additional development of facilities is ongoing.



8 Unregistered and Unauthorised Vehicles

- **Install signage advising of vehicle restrictions and monitor/enforce**

Signage installed. Ongoing monitoring.

- **Refer unregistered vehicles to Police out of Council’s jurisdiction**

Ongoing monitoring.

- **Ban the use of Jet Skis in the Gwydir River**

Signage installed. Request for TfNSW officer to monitor in peak season/s sent to TfNSW – see above

9 Town Parks and Reserves

- **Develop facility plans for Bicentennial, Cunningham and Junction Parks including BBQs, additional covered tables and seating**

Bicentennial Park - Appendix 5.

Cunningham Park - Pending.

Junction Park - Pending.

- **Investigate developing a child-safe water activity park in Cunningham Park adjacent to the existing swimming pool.**

Project is funded and underway within the pool area.

CONSULTATION

Extensive consultation was undertaken during the Plan’s preparation over the last two (2) plus years.

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Chairman

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Draft Gwydir River Crown Land Reserves Plan of Management be received and adopted.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Draft Plan of Management - Gwydir River

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MINUTE 265/20

THAT the Draft Gwydir River Crown Land Reserves Plan of Management be received and adopted subject to Site 2 The Faithful Area be available for free camping at all times.

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Galvin)

Gwydir River Crown Land Reserves Plan of Management



Prepared By:
The Gwydir Shire Council
Development and Environmental Services
October 2020

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Chairman

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DRAFT

Executive Summary

Vision

To provide a network of sustainable riverside reserves that support camping and day use recreation, for the enjoyment of future generations

The aim of the management plan is to enable the Gwydir Shire Council to protect, enhance and conserve, the natural, cultural, social and built features, of the Crown Land Reserves situated along the Gwydir River, whilst enhancing and encouraging community and visitor use. The implementation of the management plan will allow for provision of equity across environmental and social spectrums.

This plan will guide Council in delivering its [Community Strategic Plan](#)

Objective 1

We have healthy spaces and places

- 1.3 Provide for a healthy and active future • Ensure recreation opportunities and facilities to meet changing needs

Objective 2

Our community is an inviting and vibrant place to live

- 2.1 Enable accessible and affordable lifestyle options
- 2.2 A shared responsibility for community safety
- 2.3 Promote our unique position in the region
 - Monitor and regulate environmental and food safety standards
 - Coordinate and promote events and tourism

Objective 3

Our economy is growing and supported

- 3.1 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure
- 3.2 Encourage economic development
- 3.3 Promote our community as the place to visit, live, work and invest
 - Promote and support business investment and employment growth
 - Provide visitor information services
 - Develop and promote tourism

Objective 5

Our community understands and embraces environmental change

- 5.1 Encourage respectful planning, balanced growth and good design
- 5.2 Respond to our changing environment
- 5.3 Value, protect and enhance our natural environment
 - Encourage sustainable land use
 - Plan for the impacts of drought
 - Undertake bush and riverside regeneration

Objective 6

We use and manage our resources wisely

- 6.4 Identify and make best use of our land
 - Support the protection of our land through long term planning
 - Plan community spaces wisely

This Plan of Management applies to the contiguous parcels of Crown reserves, beginning within the town limits and includes land made available for camping and recreation along the Gwydir River beyond the town limits towards Copeton Dam.

The Gwydir Shire Council has been appointed by the Crown Lands Division to manage the affairs of the reserve trust and this plan outlines measurable and achievable ways to meet the Crown Management Principles:

- (a) that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land,*
- (b) that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible,*
- (c) that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged,*
- (d) that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged,*
- (e) that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and*
- (f) that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.*

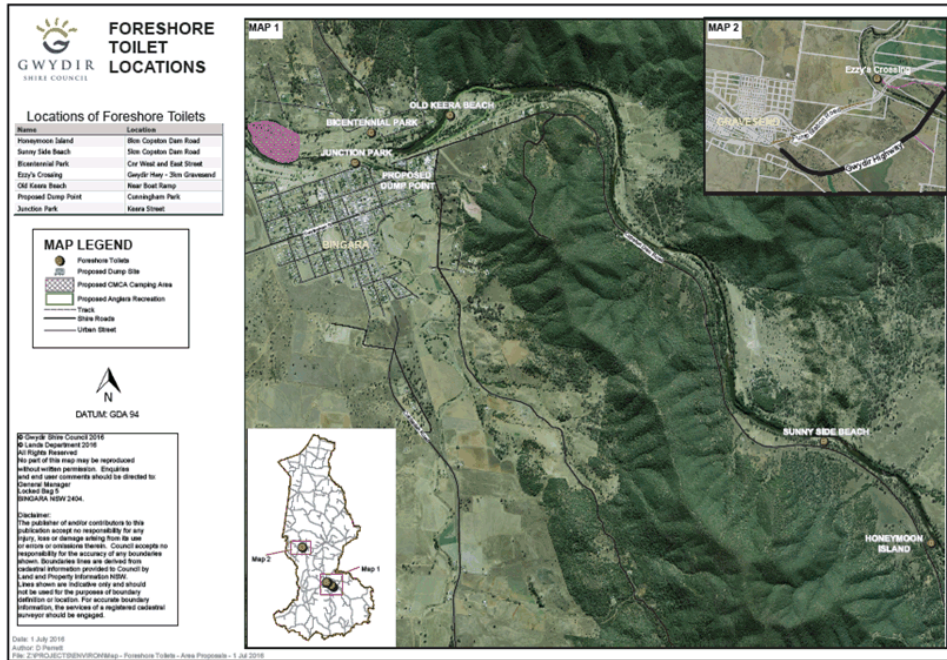
The main attraction for the reserves lies in the intrinsic values associated with a natural bushland setting, the scenic riverside location with associated facilities, and the undeveloped nature of these areas.

The reserves are accessed by visitors and members of the community who use the reserves for several recreational pursuits such as fishing, swimming, walking, cycling, watercraft and camping.

Access to the riverside reserves is gained via several unformed roads; the reserve areas provide minimal built user facilities, there are no toilets at present although some are planned or barbeque/picnic areas.

The construction of toilets is proposed at the following locations:

- Junction Park
- Bicentennial Park
- Old Keera Beach
- Sunnyside Beach or Honeymoon Island
- Glacial Area (this location is outside the area of this Plan of Management) and
- Ezzy's Crossing near Gravesend (this location is outside the area of this Plan of Management).



By preserving the intrinsic values of the reserves Council satisfies the Community Strategic Plan Objectives 2.1, 2.3, 3.3, 5.1, 5.3, and 6.4.

The desired outcomes from the implementation of the Management Plan are as follows:

- To provide high conservation value habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna
- To provide high natural amenity opportunities for recreation
- To provide buffers to help sustain healthy water quality and
- To support sustainable economic activities, such as recreational fishing and ecotourism.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose and development of this plan

The purpose of this Plan of Management is to establish the framework and operational procedures for the Riverside Crown Reserves. The plan has been developed to encourage public use of the reserves, while ensuring the safety of visitors and without degrading the natural landscape. The lands are Crown Reserves under the provisions of the *Crown Lands Act 1989, as amended*, with the care, control, use and management vested in the Gwydir Shire Council.

Each of the reserves is currently used for camping and recreation by the public.

Current unrestricted use and demand for riverside camping and recreation are having some negative social and environmental impacts.

This document puts forward an action plan to provide best practice for the sustainable management of the Crown Reserves outlined. This management plan has been developed to include the principles of Crown land management, Council's priorities, as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan and the [Bingara Town Strategy](#) which include community values for the reserves.

This management document will assist in the development and enforcement of procedures that fulfil Council's statutory obligations under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, and ecologically sustainable awareness and development for the Gwydir Shire Council and its residents.

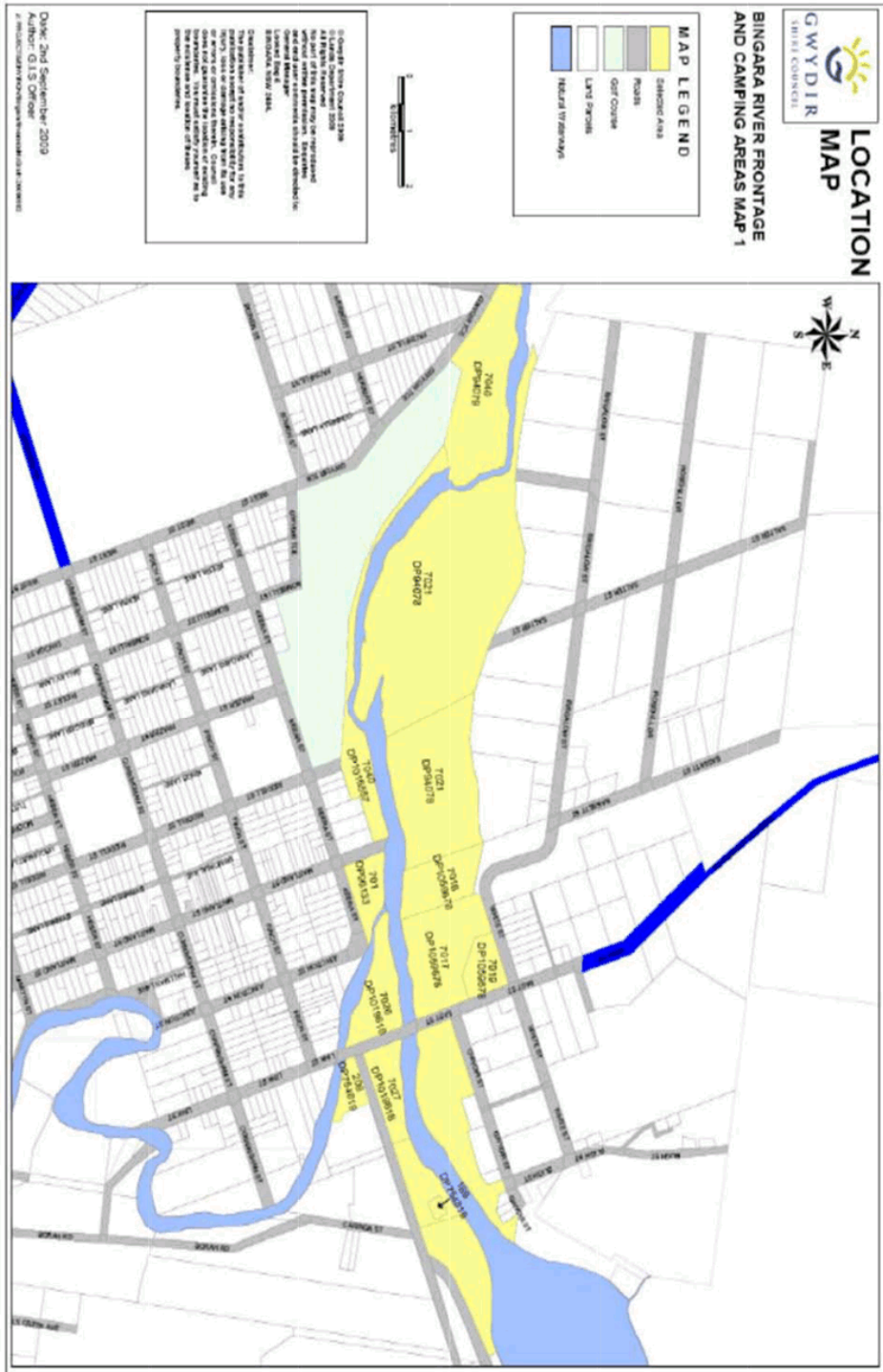
1.2 Description of the land

The subject land is located within the township of Bingara and is bisected by the Gwydir River.

On the north side of the river the land comprises of Lot 7021 DP94078, 7018 DP 1059678, Lot 7019 DP1059678, 7017 DP1059678. While on the southern side of the river it comprises of Lot &040 DP94079, Lot 7040 DP1016557 Lot 701 DP96133, Lot 7026 DP1019618 Lot 7027 DP1019618 & Lot 189 DP754819 and Cunningham's Park. (See Map 1).

Further sections of land beyond the town limits are also included in this plan and include sections of the Gwydir River banks available for free camping and accessed at various points along the Copeton Dam Road.

The ongoing management of the more formal parkland areas of Junction Park, Bicentennial Park and Cunningham Park are handled as a component of the maintenance regime for the Bingara town parks and gardens.



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Chairman

1.3 The Legal Status of the Land

The Gwydir River Reserves are Crown Lands administered under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and the *Crown Lands Regulation 2006*. The land is reserved for the public purpose of recreation; it is not community/operational land classified under Part 2 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

1.4 Reserve Access and Usage

The land areas have several unformed/unsealed dry weather roadways that generally traverse in a westerly and easterly direction across the parcels of land in question following the alignment of the Gwydir River. These roads form part of the established Scenic River Drives.

The most westerly (downstream) access point is from Faithful Street below the golf course.

The northern portion of the reserve has an access road veering off the bend section to the south of White Street. Access can also be gained from the end of Salter Street; both accesses head towards the river then run parallel forming a part of the Scenic River Drives.

Heading in an Easterly direction out of Bingara, along the Copeton Dam Road, there are multiple access points to the riverside and camping areas.

The Boat Ramp is accessed from the fork in Copeton Dam Road opposite the Bingara MPS (Hospital), just before the Water Treatment plant heading east. There is another access point off the end of Old Keera Road.

The remaining access points occur at various distances along a stretch of Copeton Dam Road for approximately 8 kilometres.

Each of the reserves is currently used for camping and recreation by the public on an informal basis. Camping is in mobile homes, tents, caravans, and campervans.

2. Management Context

2.1 Legislative Requirements

The main legislative and policy requirements which apply to the reserve are the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, with the care, control, use and management vested in the Gwydir Shire Council.

The other relevant legislation and associated regulations applicable to the management of land outlined in this document has been considered in the remediation activities listed in the 'Action Plan' and are as follows:

The Local Government Act 1993
Fisheries Management Act 1994
Native Vegetation Act 2003
NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995
Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003
Companion Animals Act 1998 and
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)

2.2 Principles of Crown Land Management

Section 10 of the Crown Lands Act 1989 requires the Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA) to ensure that Crown Land is managed for the benefit of the people of NSW.

These principles are aimed at recognising and protecting the intrinsic values of the land, and its natural, cultural and social resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Principles of Crown Land Management are defined in Section 11 of the Act:

That environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land

That the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible

That public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged

That, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged

That, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity and

That Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.

2.3 Other Guiding Principles

This Plan of Management has been developed to integrate with a range of other planning documents which relate to mitigating social and environmental impacts.

The following documents have been incorporated into this management document to steer the future use and development of the reserves.

The key documents and a brief summary of their contents follow:

Gwydir Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2013-2023:

This plan provides community values for the Gwydir River and the Reserves, based on the community consultation which was reported in the plan.

Border Rivers-Gwydir 2013-2023 Catchment Action Plan:

The Catchment Action Plan (CAP) lists priority actions for the Gwydir as:

Manage total grazing pressure

Manage threatening processes including weeds, feral animals, aquatic pest species, soil erosion, soil fertility decline

Improve community capacity through research, education and training and access to services

Improve water quality

Restore balance to native vegetation across the landscapes (control woody growth on upper slopes, regenerate lower slopes and floodplains) and

Protect and rehabilitate riparian and in-stream habitat.

Draft NSW Invasive Species Plan 2015-2022

The NSW Invasive Species Plan identifies four goals to realise its vision, these goals aim to deliver specific measurable outcomes and actions that complement the NSW targets for natural resource management as identified in the NSW State Plan (above):

- Exclude – prevent the establishment of new invasive species
- Eradicate or contain – eliminate, or prevent the spread of new invasive species
- Effectively manage – reduce the impacts of widespread invasive species
- Capacity building – ensure NSW has the ability and commitment to manage invasive species.

2.4 Community Consultation

Community consultation is an integral part of the process of preparing a Plan of Management.

Pursuant to Section 113, *Crown Lands Act 1989*, the Draft Plan once accepted by the Gwydir Shire Council, will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Furthermore, community consultation has been incorporated in this Plan of Management, through the Gwydir Shire Council's overall past strategic planning process.

Specific input has been sought from The Bingara Anglers Club and other internal and external stakeholder groups.

3. Reserve Values and Issues

3.1 Environmental Values

The Gwydir River foreshore reserves form part of a riparian environment which follows the course of the Gwydir River, making this a significant habitat corridor for biodiversity.

A riparian habitat is the transition zone between terrestrial and aquatic environments performing a range of important environmental functions; protection and restoration of these environments is essential for maintaining and improving the ecological functions of the river¹.

Degradation of riparian vegetation along NSW waterways is a listed Key Threatening Process in Schedule 6 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*, as such the range of functions the riverside reserves support are an important focus in the public understanding and use of the river corridor reserves.

Riparian corridors are important for wildlife use, providing food, habitat and shelter from predation, as well as allowing for movement along differing vegetation communities.

The Gwydir River frontage follows the Gwydir River into and out of the township, and is adjacent to the Bingara State Conservation Area and The Bingara State Forrest providing an essential habitat corridor for aquatic and land species, to be using for migration from the reserve to beyond the town limits².

3.2 Environmental Issues

As the Reserve Trustee, the Gwydir Shire Council is responsible for the environmental management of the land making up their reserves, as such the Gwydir Shire Council

¹ Australian River Restoration Centre, 'Sound management of riparian lands', <http://arrc.com.au/resources/sound-management-of-riparian-lands/> Accessed: September 2013.

² Australian Government, 'Habitat Management Guide', <http://www.northern.cma.nsw.gov.au/downloads/publications/rivers-and-wetlands/pub-riparian-habitat-management.pdf> Accessed: September 2013.

commissioned the services of Ecologist Dr J Hunter to undertake an investigation of the flora and vegetation of the reserve (see attachment for full report) in order to:

- a) Asses the condition of the riparian vegetation communities
- b) Assess the occurrence of threatened ecological communities and threatened flora species
- c) Identify weeds and
- d) Assess the occurrence of other potential management issues.

It has been observed that some of the current uses of the reserves are having some negative impacts on the environment.

The following table extracted from the ecological report lists the processes occurring at the reserves which are posing a threat to the quality of the environment and its functions, as well as outlining the Act to which it relates.³

Threatening Processes Likely to Be Occurring at The Reserves		
Activity	Type	Status
The degradation of native riparian vegetation along NSW water courses	Habitat change/loss	NSW Fisheries Management Act
Predation by the European Red Fox <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	Pest Animal	TSC ⁴ Key Threatening Process
Removal of dead wood and dead trees	Habitat change/loss	TSC Key Threatening Process
Invasion of native plant communities by exotic perennial grasses	Weed	TSC Key Threatening Process
Clearing of native vegetation	Habitat change/loss	TSC Key Threatening Process
Loss of hollow-bearing trees	Habitat change/loss	TSC Key Threatening Process
Loss and degradation of habitat by invasion of escaped garden plants	Weed	TSC & EPBC ⁵ Key Threatening Process
The removal of large woody debris from NSW rivers and streams	Habitat change/loss	NSW Fisheries management Act
Alteration to the natural flow regimes of rivers and streams and their floodplains and wetlands	Habitat change/loss	TSC Key Threatening Process

The main findings of the report highlight the following:

- All this community falls within the Endangered Aquatic community in the Natural Drainage System of the Lowland Catchment of the Darling River
- Implicit in this determination is the protection of associated vegetation to enable the persistence of the aquatic community that depends upon it
- Key threats to this endangered aquatic community include any man-made structures, alteration of flow (such as water extraction), removal of vegetation,

³ Dr J Hunter, 'Management Issues: Public Usage' in *Flora, Vegetation & Management Considerations: Gwydir River – Bingara*, 2013, p.26.

⁴ NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (TSC)

⁵ Cwlth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC)

sedimentation, insecticide runoff, overfishing, removal of snags, introduction of aquatic and streamside introduced pests and changes in nutrient loads

- Some control needs to occur as significant environmental change has already occurred, at camping sites along the river's edge due to high edge to area ratio and
- A sustainable recreation strategy needs to be put into place that incorporates the restoration of existing degraded sites and the prevention of further damage.

The natural riparian vegetation of each of the reserves provides a range of important functions for the health of the riparian ecosystem and for supporting biodiversity.

The vegetation is dominated by the Weeping Bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*) and River Sheoak (*Casuarina cunninghamia*), and *Eucalyptus sp.* providing a buffer to the river's edge from the more open grassed areas of the lower flood terraces behind.

Weeds are a significant problem throughout the reserves, with a range of species present.

Clearing and vandalism of vegetation on the reserves for firewood also diminishes environmental values and creates potential soil erosion problems, as does the soil compaction and loss of vegetation caused by uncontrolled vehicle access and grazing pressure by horses.

Flooding has the most dramatic impact on the reserves, with significant loss of topsoil and stripping of vegetation at most locations following flood events.

Degradation of biodiversity is one of the most important environmental problems to be addressed in the management of the Reserves. Biodiversity is the variety of all life forms, the diversity of genes they encompass as well as the ecosystems in which they interact with. The activities required to address biodiversity health have a focus on those which aim to rehabilitate and retain the remaining habitat. Rehabilitation is the process used to create a healthy, natural self-regulating environment, which is close as possible to its original state,⁶ and as such rehabilitation and conservation of remaining habitat is an important objective for this Management Plan.

The NSW Biodiversity Strategy states that the main threats to biodiversity are feral animals, invasive weeds, and land clearing⁷ all of which are issues found to be having an impact on the Gwydir River.

Loss of native vegetation, due to land usage and flood events, may also be contributing to a reduction in the function of the River Foreshore as an important habitat corridor, and will be addressed in the management objectives and activities.

3.3 Environmental Management Requirements

Under the provisions of the *Crown Lands Act 1989* the management and administration of Crown reserves must ensure that environmental protection principles are observed; this is a legal responsibility, reflecting the importance of protecting and enhancing the environmental values of natural areas.

Gwydir Shire's environmental responsibilities under the Act can be classified as follows:

- Weeds and pest animals must be appropriately managed
- Threatened species and their habitats must be protected and
- Aboriginal and Environmental Heritage items must be protected.

⁶ B Knox et.al, 'Biology: An Australian Focus' McGraw-Hill, Australia, 2010, pp. 1102-1118.

⁷ Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW, <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity/nswbiostrategy.htm>, Accessed: September 2013.

4. Recreational Values and Issues

4.1 Recreational Values

The Gwydir River and river frontage also provide an integral component for a wide range of community recreational activities and social gatherings.

The natural environmental values of the riverside Crown Reserves are the major elements responsible for their intrinsic appeal.

The Reserves are significant in area and are easily accessed by vehicle or on foot at several unsealed road access points. Easy access to the riverside has made the reserves a popular spot for locals and visitors to pursue a number of recreational activities: fishing, walking, cycling, horse riding, canoe/kayaking, boating, picnicking, sightseeing, swimming, nature observation and bushwalking are all popular pursuits.

The reserves currently promote the natural assets and do not make provision for toilet and waste amenities and this lack of appropriate ablution facilities is planned to be addressed.

4.2 Recreational Issues

The natural environmental values of the riverside reserves which attract people for camping and recreational activities are also the elements which are most under threat from the continued unregulated use for these activities.

Historically, the reserves have been used by the local community for water-based recreation, river access and traditional bush camping, however, in recent years there has been a significant increase in visitor numbers, and much of the sites have become subject to overuse – particularly during the Christmas and Easter periods where there has been a significant shift from traditional bush camping to large motor homes accessing the riverbank at a number of sites, hence the increased impact of recreational pursuits and camping on the reserve areas.

Dr J Hunter's ecological survey report outlines that there is seasonal but significant public usage of accessible areas of the riverbank, particularly for recreational fishing and camping, which is causing many areas of the river particularly where the floodplain is extended and amenable, to have a number of its ecological processes disrupted and habitat to be downgraded or destroyed.

Continued inappropriate recreational use of the reserves will lead to long term environmental degradation including loss of vegetation cover, soil erosion, reduced water quality, reduced wildlife habitat and the accumulation of pollutants in the river system.

Specifically, the report⁸ outlines several issues arising from such informal usage of the riverside reserves and include amongst many:

Faecal Pollution - toilet facilities are not available on the reserves and must be addressed. Weekly compliance inspections have not detected deliberate faecal pollution from contained toilet units. There is evidence, confirmed to an extent by complaints received, that some campers could be using inadequate toileting facilities that primarily include holes in the ground that are roughly covered up. This behaviour can cause disease and unsanitary water quality, for both human and local native animals.

⁸ Dr J Hunter, 'Management Issues: Public Usage' in *Flora, Vegetation & Management Considerations: Gwydir River – Bingara*, 2013, p.26-29.

Non-native Animals – domestic pets were present at camp sites, primarily dogs which were at times unleashed. Native animals including possums, kangaroos, wallabies, lizards and birds, as well as rare and threatened fauna, are at threat from domestic animals.

Many native animals are very prone to stress-related diseases; these diseases can be brought on by contact with humans and domestic pets. Unrestrained pets are one of the greatest threats to native wildlife. The presence of non-native animals at bush campsites will deter the breeding of native animals.

Rubbish – waste facilities are not available on the reserves and rubbish was noticed at several locations. Rubbish also includes food scraps as its consumption by native animals is often detrimental, causing dietary diseases. The transportation of rubbish is an issue at the reserves as it is likely to flow downstream during high water periods.

Firewood - Firewood collection has occurred in all areas where campsites were common and showed a total denudation of any on ground woody material, nor were dead standing trees seen in areas where public usage was high. Even small woody debris was cleared from areas of high camper usage. Larger fallen trunks were seen to have been very recently cut by chainsaw. Fallen timber is a key habitat feature that provides shelter for reptiles, frogs, small mammals and numerous invertebrates. Loss of fallen logs changes the ground microclimate which affects soil organisms below fallen logs as well as changing the above ground plant cover. The removal of dead wood and dead trees is listed as a key threatening process in the Threatened Species Conservation Act.

Noise - Many native animals are highly prone to stress and can die from excessive stress. This can occur from human generated noise and machinery movement. This is particularly so during peak holiday periods and during night time when both noise and light can cause disturbance.

Clearing - While large scale clearing is not occurring, many small-scale clearing events are happening each time a camp is set. This includes 'tidying up' such as flattening of grounds for tents, associated equipment and for campfires. These small events are at times minor and recoverable however areas which are more commonly used have little time for proper recovery, leaving such sites prone to weed invasion and establishment.

Weeds - Introduced plants require disturbance or modification of the environment to become established. The extensive use of the river bank shows that this is occurring at a very high rate. Across the survey sites 25% of the species found were exotic. One community had 42% of its listed species as non-natives. This survey was conducted only during a single time of year and many other species may be present that were not recorded. Activities which promote weeds include nutrient addition from the dumping of food scraps and toileting, trapped in dirt and mud on vehicles and clearing activities. There are several weedy taxa present that are likely to cause serious environmental problems and loss of diversity if left unchecked and some of these species are listed as Key Threatening Processes on the TSC Act.

Flooding - The areas which are currently used for camping are right at the river's edge. These areas are subject to flooding, and the floods of early 2009 gave an indication of river levels during a major flood event. The prevailing damage from flooding should be considered when addressing suitability of camping locations and allowable activities.

Traffic

Undefined use of the unsealed roads causes conflicts between pedestrian and vehicular traffic, given its diversity of users, lack of signage indicating direction, speed and adherence to designated roads.

Braiding of roads would be reduced with regular grading of the existing roads. The last co-ordinated grading of the roads occurred over 6 years ago.

Access

There is anecdotal evidence of the issue of reduced access to the river bank where access has been restricted by camp sites established on the bank.

The Bingara Anglers Club advised that during the Easter Public Holiday period their members have been unable to establish a camp site at their preferred location due to existing camps already having been established. This Plan recommends the allocation of a dedicated area for the exclusive event use of the Bingara Anglers' Club at the boat launching ramp located adjacent to the Bingara Water Treatment Plant. This section of the foreshore is designated as part of the river rather than the foreshore.

Most camp sites are established as close as possible to the river bank and therefore increase the risk of erosion of the bank. A highly valued site may be occupied soon after vacating without the site having any significant period of time to rehabilitate.

4.3 Enforcement

Penalty notices under the *Crown Lands Regulation 2006* (the Regulation), the *Crown Lands (General Reserves) By-law 2006* (the By-law) and the *Companion Animals Act 1998* for behaviour that contravenes the provisions of the Regulation or By-Law may be issued by the Council.

Penalty notices are, in effect, on-the-spot fines which can be issued for breach of a list of offences specified in the Regulation and the By-law. Some traffic and vehicular offences are referred to the appropriate enforcement authority.

Situations that require enforcement include:

- Fires – particularly in environmentally sensitive areas or during fire bans
- Removal of native flora or fauna
- Littering or dumping of rubbish
- Pollution
- Residing illegally on the reserve
- Unpermitted stock grazing
- Removal of warning signs or other signage
- Pets – not under effective control and attacks
- Speeding, unregistered and abandoned vehicles - referred to local Police.

5. Economic Values and Issues

5.1 Economic Values

There is no business or commercial focus to the existing activities within the reserves. However, the reserves provide economic value to Bingara Township from the local tourism and business provided from visitors who travel to the area for free riverside camping, particularly during the peak times of Christmas and Easter.

5.2 Economic Issues

The reserves are all undeveloped and have minimal facilities to support recreational uses – particularly camping.

Potential future capital improvements for the reserves should include the provision of toilet facilities, which will in large part be grant funded. This could assist with the future development and promotion of the reserves, as well as managing the perceived public and environmental health issues currently associated with faecal pollution.

A camping fee may be required at some point in the future to fund the maintenance and further implementation of amenities, but the collection of fees is difficult without the appointment of dedicated staff to administer the overall reserve area. Additional economic growth for the improved management of the reserves can be sought through the application of various funding initiatives.

6. Risk Management

6.1 General Requirements

Council's Workplace Health and Safety Policy and Community Strategic Plan state the Council has a duty of care to manage and minimise the risk of reasonably predictable events to employees and all users of the areas covered by this plan.

6.2 Visitor Safety public liability

Identified risks are traffic collision - land and water, falling trees and limbs, public health issues, rope swings, drowning, submerged objects, dog attack

6.3 Fire - refer to SES plan for flood/fire

6.4 Flood – refer to SES plan for flood/fire.

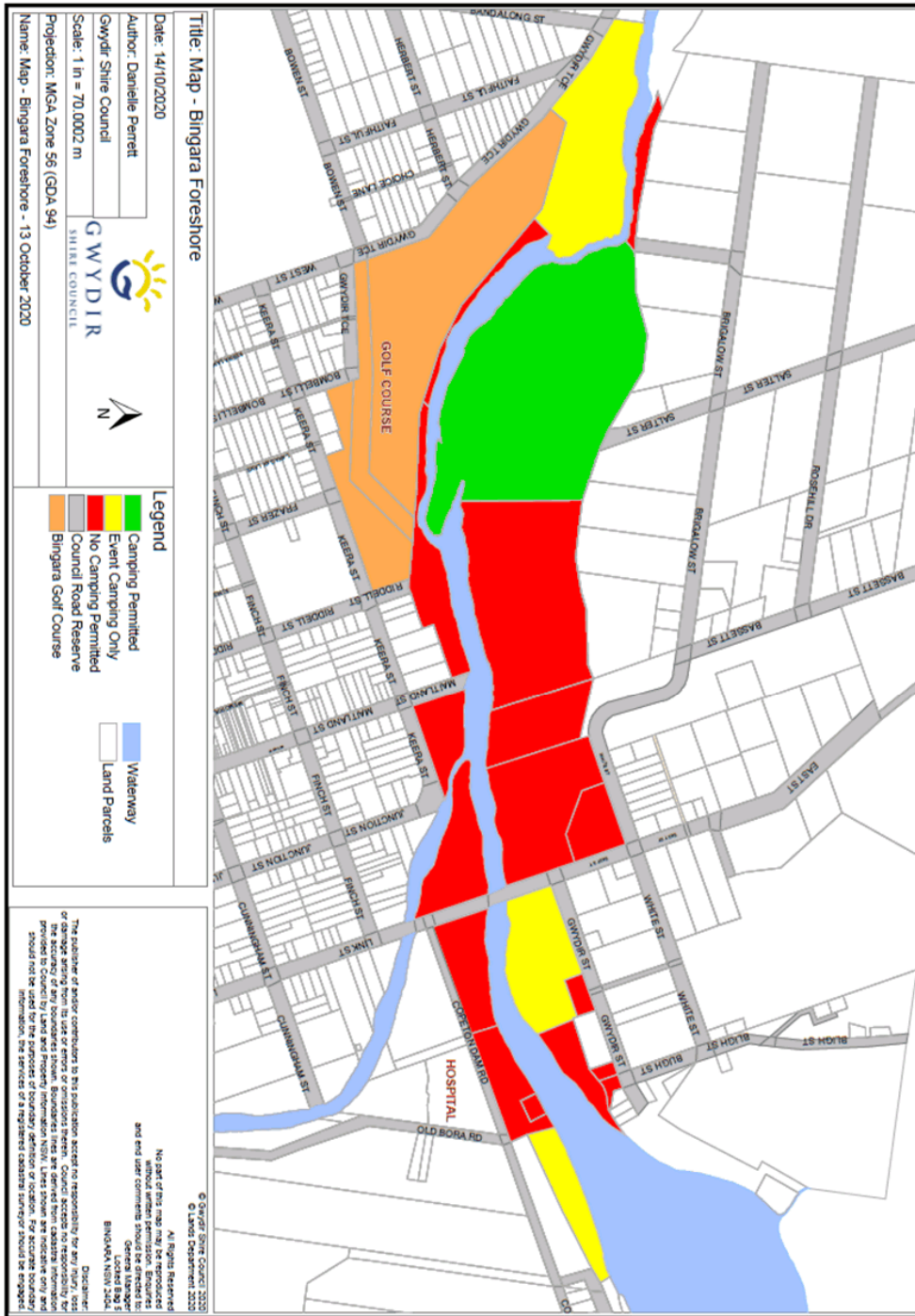
6.5 Feral Animals

The NSW Invasive Species Plan 2015-2022 requires the land manager (Council for the purposes of this plan) to:

- Goal 1: Exclude. Prevent the establishment of new invasive species
- Goal 2: Eradicate or Contain. Eliminate or prevent the spread of new invasive species
- Goal 3: Effectively Manage. Reduce the impacts of widespread invasive species
- Goal 4: Capacity. Ensure NSW has the ability and commitment to manage invasive species.

6.6 Weed Control

North West Regional Weed Committee Weed Action Program 2020-2025. Areas are regularly inspected by Bio-Security Authorised Officer (weeds) and the appropriate action is taken to control weeds detected. Bio-Links projects that the Council is currently participating in all have specific weed control actions.



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Chairman

RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX - The following risk assessment matrix evaluates the likelihood, consequence and control measures for each risk identified.

Id	Description of Risk (including any identified 'triggers')	Impact on Project (Identify consequences)	Assessment of Likelihood	Assessment of Seriousness	Grade (combined Likelihood and Seriousness)	Date of Review	Mitigation Actions (Preventative or Contingency)	Responsibility for mitigation action(s)	Cost	Timeline for mitigation action(s)
6.1	Injury from boat near boat ramp	-Personal injury -Financial loss	C	Major	High	2018	-signage restricting swimming near boat ramp -inspection	-DE&S ⁹ -Regulatory Officers	-signage \$400 -inspection 3 hours per week done with regular inspection of area	-3 months -ongoing
6.2	Dog roaming and/or attack	-Personal injury	B	Moderate	High	2018	-signage dogs to be controlled -inspection -enforcement policy -companion animals act	-DDES -Regulatory Officers	-signage \$800 -inspection 3 hours per week done with regular inspection of area	-in place -ongoing
6.3	Black Water release and faecal pollution	-Health -water pollution -land contamination	C	Major	High	2018	-inspection -signage -enforcement policy -POEO Act ¹⁰	-DE&S -Regulatory Officers -EPA	-signage \$800 -inspection 3 hours per week done with regular	-in place -ongoing

⁹ Director Development and Environmental Services
¹⁰ Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act)

6.4	Drowning/Injury from swimming, collision and submerged objects	-Personal injury -property damage	B	Major	High	2018	-signage warning of dangers	-DE&S	-signage \$800	- in place
6.5	Damage and/or injury from falling branches and trees	-Personal injury -property damage	B	Major	High	2018	-signage warning of dangers -inspection	-DE&S -Regulatory Officers	-signage \$800 -Inspection 3 hours per week done with regular inspection of area	- in place - ongoing
6.6	Roads	-Personal injury -property damage -weed proliferation	A	Moderate	High	2018	-signage -policing -grading	-DE&S -Police -DTS ¹¹	-signage \$800 -grading \$5000	- in place - ongoing
6.7	Fire	-Personal injury -property damage -loss of habitat -loss of biodiversity	C	Major	High		-signage -policing	-DE&S -Regulatory Officers -RFS ¹²	-signage -Inspection 3 hours per week done with regular inspection of area	- in place - ongoing
6.8	Flood	-Personal injury -property damage -loss of habitat	C	Major	High	2018	-signage -early warning	-State Water -DE&S -SES ¹³	-signage	- in place - ongoing

¹¹ Director Technical Services

¹² Rural Fire Service

¹³ State Emergency Services

		-loss of biodiversity								
6.9	Feral Animals	-Personal injury -property damage -loss of habitat -loss of biodiversity	B	Minor	Medium	2018	-signage -polling -minimisation practices -eradication programs	-DE&S -Regulatory Officers -DP1 ¹⁴ -LLS ¹⁵	-signage \$800 -inspection 3 hours per week done with regular inspection of area	-in place -ongoing
6.10	Weeds	-loss of habitat -loss of biodiversity	B	Moderate	High	2018	-inspection -weed treatment	-DE&S -weeds officers -DP1	-inspection 4 hours quarterly -weed treatment as needed -chemical for treatment	-ongoing

¹⁴ Department of Primary Industries

¹⁵ Local Land Services

7. Action Plan - Objectives and Outcomes

7.1 Overview of Reserve Management Objectives

- Protect the environment
- Conserve the natural resource
- Encourage public use
- Encourage multiple use
- Manage land and resources sustainably.

7.2 Visitor Management

The behaviour of visitors should be managed to achieve the outcomes outlined through increased awareness and enforcement.

7.3 Facility Management

Any current facilities should be maintained at a safe and functioning standard. Any new facilities would be maintained to these standards.

7.4 Environmental Management

The Council should continue to manage the natural environment to reduce the impact of visitors and invasive species while continuing revegetation and rehabilitation projects that will restore and enhance the ecological functions of the area as a riparian habitat.

This would be achieved by increasing awareness of the impacts of certain activities and the prohibition or limiting of certain damaging, degrading or threatening activities.

7.5 Leasing and Licensing Management

Local councils as Reserve trust managers can be authorised by the Minister for Lands to grant leases, licences and related easements over the Crown reserves they manage in certain circumstances (as defined by the Minister for Lands) without the need to obtain the Minister for Lands' consent.

The provision enables councils, where it is warranted and appropriate, to have similar levels of autonomy and accountability over Crown land as they have under the community land provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The Council must within 14 days of using this power notify the Minister of the terms of the grant.

Although there are no current plans to lease or license any of the areas to which this plan is applicable, there has been some preliminary discussions with the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) about formalising a location under the control and management of the CMCA somewhere along the Gwydir River foreshore.

7.6 Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring and reporting are essential components of the Management Plan. Ongoing monitoring of the areas applicable in this Plan would be undertaken by the relevant department conducting the activity. This includes the natural resources, Council activity as well as visitors and their behaviours.

The Plan allows for assessments to be made about the effectiveness of activities and the applicability of the objectives. In order to achieve and maintain environmental integrity, a management plan needs to clearly outline what the objectives for that environment would be, what management activities could be implemented to achieve those objectives and what methods and frequency of data collection would be used.

Action Plan

Action	Responsibility	Priority	Performance Measure
Develop policies, procedures and systems for the effective and efficient operation of the Camping Reserves	Council (DDES)	High	Policies, procedures and systems developed and implemented
Complete a Risk Assessment as part of the Plan and implement controls	Council (DOCD ¹⁶)	High	Risk Assessment completed and controls in place
Implement Crown Reserve Reporting System (CRRS) requirements to meet the Trusts annual reporting obligations	Council (Exec)	High	CRRS requirements established and implemented
Install appropriate facilities at each of the Camping Reserves to support the camping activity and day use of the reserves	Council (Exec)	High	Facilities installed in accordance with Master Plan S68 approval at each site
Develop long-term asset management plan and annual maintenance program (including costings), Prioritise future funding allocation based on asset management planning	Council (DTS)	High	Asset Management Plan prepared and implemented
Ensure all assets are registered for insurance purposes	Council (DTS/DOCD)	High	Insurance register maintained
Undertake annual review of Camping Reserve usage to determine if demand is increasing	Council (DDES)	High	Annual review of Camping Reserve usage undertaken
Work with key stakeholders specifically LLS to identify funding sources to further improve infrastructure as necessary	Council (Exec)	Ongoing	Key stakeholders informed and involved in future development plans
Work with key stakeholders, agencies and partners to develop and implement, monitor and review an Environmental Management Plan for each of the Reserves	Council (DDES)	High	Environmental Management Plans developed, implemented, monitored and reviewed as necessary
Undertake appropriate vegetation management, and work with stakeholders where possible to	Council (DDES)	Ongoing	Vegetation management strategies developed and implemented

¹⁶ Director Organisation & Community Development
 Page | 23/36

implement vegetation management strategies			
Undertake pest and weed management at each Reserve in conjunction with appropriate agencies	Council (DDES)	Ongoing	Weed and pest management strategies developed and implemented
Identify items of significance such as heritage items, items of cultural significance, and plants and animals of environmental significance e.g. threatened or endangered species on the reserves which require protection	Council (DDES)	High	Ecological survey of all areas and significant items identified
Appropriate signage, including copies of by-laws if applicable, to be displayed in prominent locations. Use of media release and other publications to inform visitors of the acceptable activities and behaviour on reserves, and the relevant enforcement action for non-compliance	Council (DDES)	High	Signs erected and decrease/increase of behaviours
Grade roads	Council (DTS)	High	Roads graded and areas accessible by roads
Gather base line data to identify the values of the reserve to the community	Council (DDES)	High	Surveys conducted and data collated
Littering signage	Council (DDES)	High	Reduction in littering instances
Manage waste disposal-increase number of bins at Cunningham Park	Council (DDES)	High	Waste disposed of appropriately
Limit duration of stay for campers	Council (DDES)	High	Visitors do not overstay
Define permissible, event and non-permissible camping zones	Council (DDES)	High	Areas identified and appropriate signage erected and VIC materials produced
All visitors must have toilets if public toilets are unavailable at the proposed camping location	Council (DDES)	High	Number of non-compliant users identified and fined
Defined vehicle access corridors	Council (DDES)	High	
Manage priority weeds	Council (DDES)	High	Weeds are reduced/contained
Manage feral animals	Council (DDES)	High	Identify feral animal numbers and type and reduce
Riverbank edge walkway/riding trail - Create stable and shaded river edge landscapes with native trees to allow a walk, horse-ride trail along riverfront	Council (DDES)	Medium	Walkway trail created
Grazing pressure	Council (DDES)	High	
Implement interpretive walkways outlining the natural and cultural values of the flora and fauna of the area, as well as the implementation of nature observation stations	Council (DDES)	Medium	Walkways are defined and observation stations are installed

Facilitate sustainable recreational use by encouraging cyclist and walkers to use designated paths, and limit vehicular access to minimum designated paths	Council (DDES)	High	Increased use of designated paths by cyclist and walkers. Decreased vehicle numbers
Install shaded seating	Council (DDES)	Medium	Number of seats installed
Custom Designed picnic shelter, tables and chairs and viewing deck/garden, incorporating interpretive signage	Council (DDES)	Medium	Items installed
Move the camping activity away from the river's edge, leaving the area available for day use. This will also provide a buffer between the river's edge and camping ground during minor flood events	Council (DDES)	High	Signage erected and VIC materials produced and reduced number of campers on rivers edge

DRAFT

Management Issues

1 Access Roads

Undefined use of the unsealed roads causes conflicts between pedestrian and vehicular traffic, given its diversity of users and lack of adherence to designated roads.

Standard signage indicating direction, and a 15km speed limit are installed. Restricting access to certain roads through environmental design has been undertaken. New plantings of native fauna block access to these paths and river crossings. Future inspections and plantings will be used as required.

The entry access roads are sealed into the Gwydir River Common, the Boat Ramp and the Gravel Screen reserves, with access roads graded to maintain access at the other sites.

The Gwydir River Common is sealed from the White Street entry gate for 700m to the camping ground. The Boat Ramp is sealed from the entry gate for 100m. The Gravel Screen is sealed from the entry gate for 100m.

Unrestricted access of reserve entrance roads encourages vehicle usage and off-road usage, and as such vehicles are using the river as a crossing and driving off designated roads.

There will be increased control over the use of the roads by irresponsible drivers, particularly when the roads are wet.

The Council will be able to undertake enforcement compliance now signage is in place.

2 Environmental Issues

Environmental impacts include erosion, destruction and loss of native vegetation, proliferation of weeds, feral animals and invasive fish species, significant reduction in native animal populations and diversity, loss of food and habitat for native, aquatic and land species.

Standard signage prohibits the felling of trees and collection of firewood. Campers can access local suppliers for firewood.



Interpretive signage designed by the Gwydir Ark has been installed. Council's Regulatory officers monitor for the removal of flora, fauna and rocks and campsite clearing.

The removal of debris and other impediments within the river that restrict the flow will be instigated from time to time, as necessary.

A nuisance and priority weed eradication plan has been developed for the Gwydir Foreshore reserve. Grant funding from the Environment Trust and Reserve Trust is being sought to implement the plan.

Refer Appendices 1 and 2 Weed Control and Gwydir Ark Signs

3 Camping Issues

The existing camping activity has no formal approval in place to support this use. Current use and demand for riverside camping opportunities will cause further degradation and negative environmental impacts if camping is allowed to continue in an uncontrolled manner.

There is standard signage for camping 'length of stay' of seven (7) continuous days at sites within the Bingara designated town boundary and a combined length of stay at any Gwydir Shire free camp sites must not exceed 28 days in any 3 month period. These deadline limits may be enforced with some flexibility if demand by extraordinary circumstances, such as a pandemic, is warranted.

Rehabilitation of sites is implemented as needed. The area is sectioned off with temporary posts and signage restricting access. The inclusion of interpretive signage will inform the public of the reason for the restriction to the area.

Standard signage is installed informing the need for a permit for camping in the Event Camping and Boat Ramp section. The boat ramp area is overseen by the Bingara Anglers' Club in partnership with the Council.

Standard signage contains information regarding acceptable activities indicating permitted and non-permitted camping locations and general warnings. Active management of camping is undertaken through daily inspections by Council's Regulatory Officers to ensure compliance with regulations.

The area has the potential to become overgrown, restricting camper's access and becoming a potential fire hazard. Grazing is facilitated as a management tool where appropriate to keep the grass down. In addition, sites will also be slashed as needed/requested.

4 Compliance Issues

Issues requiring compliance actions include littering, ablution and grey water waste disposal, duration of stay, not camping within permitted areas, collection of firewood, safety of campers particularly if camps are located under gum trees, implementing the enforcement for non-compliance.

There is standard signage advising of camping restrictions, obligations and dangers at each camping area and this is actively monitored and enforced.

Refer Appendix 3.

5 Recreational Users

Council has erected signage alerting recreational users of potential risks including those associated with swimming, fishing, watercraft and submerged objects and the safety of pedestrians and cyclists sharing unsealed roads.

Camping locations are numbered and allocated a name for ease of identification. Each location has its own unique characteristics outlined. *Refer Appendices 3 and 4.*

There is standard signage advising of dangers installed at each camping area and this is actively monitored and enforced.

6 Possible Conflict Issues

Possible conflict issues include conflict between dogs and other users of the reserve including cyclists, pedestrians, joggers, horses, swimmers and vehicles.

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There is standard signage advising of dangers and user's obligations installed at each camping area and this is actively monitored and enforced.

Other possible conflicts may occur with management of horses, unrestricted access to environmentally sensitive areas, conflict with users, unrestrained populations, and containment issues with horses escaping.

Council's officers are monitoring the management of horses. The administration, fencing and access of horses is actively enforced.

7 Public Amenities

Development of additional facilities is ongoing. Installation of compostable toilets at suitable locations will be undertaken when suitable funding becomes available.



The Boat Ramp area has an awning with tables, seating and a bin.

All other campsites are 'primitive' with sufficient facilities to minimise environmental damage.

8 Unregistered and Unauthorised Vehicles

Possible issues could arise with unregistered/unauthorised vehicle usage, including motor bikes and jet skis.



There is standard signage advising of vehicle restrictions at each camping area and this is actively monitored and enforced. Any breeches outside Council's jurisdiction are referred to the appropriate agency for action.

The use of jet skis in the Gwydir River is regulated by Transport for NSW Roads and Maritime Services who has indicated their preference is for regulation and management of activities rather than banning. Council's request for a ban has been submitted. Signage has been installed.

9 Town Parks and Reserves

Each of the parks and reserves located within the town boundary of Bingara (Junction, Bicentennial and Cunningham Parks) need specific development plans to accommodate the growing usage of these areas by residents and visitors.

A map of proposed Bicentennial Park is Appendix 5.



A pontoon within the town boundary has been constructed at the Riverside Picnic Area Park with a walkway linking it to the Memorial Baths.

Selective thinning out of trees to allow easier access to the river will be undertaken in high use recreation areas such as around the pontoon area.

DRAFT

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Gwydir River Management Plan: Weed Control
- Appendix 2: Gwydir Ark Signs
- Appendix 3: Compliance Signs
- Appendix 4: Entry Signs
- Appendix 5: Map - Proposal - Bicentennial Park Bingara

Other relative documents

- Dr J Hunter, 'Management Issues: Public Usage' in Flora, Vegetation and Management Considerations: Gwydir River - Bingara, 2013 - Reference 20/25380**
- Bingara Town Strategy John Mongard Landscape Architect (JMLA) June 2011 - Reference 15/7900**
- Plan of Management Bingara River Frontage and Camping (Bingara Town Limits) - Reference 20/25375**



APPENDIX 1 - Gwydir River Management Plan: Weed Control

Council shall endeavour to keep the area free of noxious weeds and encourage the regrowth of native plants in bushland areas.

Weeds Present:

DPI Priority Weeds	Camping Area									
	1	1A	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mother of Millions	Y			Y						
Green Cestrum	Y	Y	Y		Y					
Tiger pear	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	
Blue Heliotrope	Y							Y	Y	Y
Noogoora Burr	Y		Y							
Madeira Vine	Y									
Paterson Curse	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y
African Boxthorn					Y					
Tree Pear						Y	Y			
Blackberry							Y	Y		
Cat's Claw Creeper					Y		Y			
Other Weeds										
Marshmallow	Y									
Thorn Apple	Y									
Willow		Y								

1. Gwydir River Common
- 1a. Event Camping
2. Faithful
3. The Boat Ramp
4. Gravel Screen
5. Sunnyside x 2
6. Sunnyside Beach
7. Honey Moon x 3
8. Bora Crossing
9. Ezzy's Crossing

INSPECTIONS: Gwydir Shire Council's Authorised officer (Weeds) regularly inspects the camping areas on the Gwydir River. Any new weed incursions detected are added to the weed control program.

CONTROL: Gwydir Shire Council's Authorised officer (Weeds) includes the control of weeds through spraying of weeds in the camping areas on the Gwydir River in the weeds program. Chemical control is undertaken during the active growth phases for each identified weed to maximise the effectiveness of control activities.

Other control methods involve biological control, the use of bugs on cactus type weeds that stop the spread of the weed. A combination of physical and chemical control is undertaken on weeds such as Green Cestrum. The plant is cut down and removed and the stump is treated with a brushing of chemical. This method is also used to control willows in some locations.

The thorn apple on the Gwydir River Common was slashed by a private contractor. This was funded through a Bio-Links grant. The cost will be included in budgets for future annual control.

Additional manual control such as the physical removal of other weeds could be undertaken by volunteers, 'Work for the Dole' or community service labour hours. This technique may not be appropriate for some weed types. Trialling weed steaming may also be appropriate for some areas. An opportunity might exist with partnering with The Living Classroom and their access to weed steaming equipment and their labour force of volunteers, 'Work for the Dole' and community service persons.

BUDGET: The current weed management is funded through the noxious weed department's budget. This has allowed for the regular chemical control of weeds by the Authorised officer (weeds). Additional funding for weed control has been obtained in the past through environmental programs usually coupled with additional tasks such as planting of native seed banks of grasses, the planting of native shrubs and the planting of native trees. Any control program that would endeavour to eradicate a particular weed species would require additional funding. This would most likely be sourced from the applicable available grant funding.

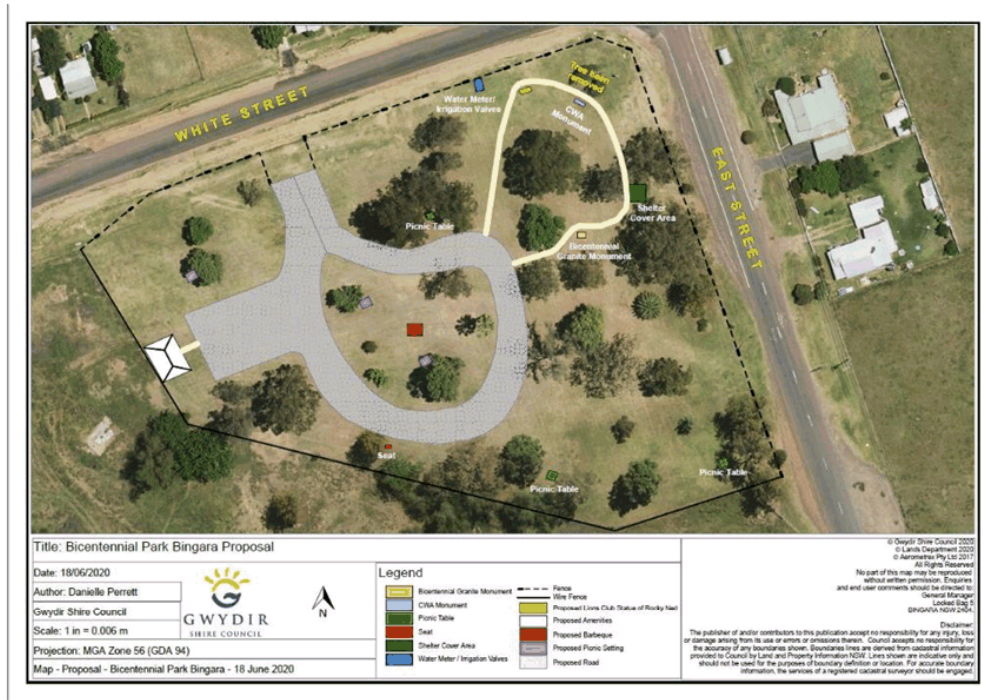
APPENDIX 3 - Compliance Signs



APPENDIX 4 - Entry Signs to Camping Areas



APPENDIX 5 - Map - Proposed Bicentennial Park, Bingara



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Chairman

Item 5 Naroo Aged Care Hostel - Liquidity Funds Policy

FILE REFERENCE 20/25316

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.1 Financial management and accountability systems - CFO - internal

AUTHOR Organisational and Community Services Director

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

BACKGROUND

Council has a Naroo Refundable Accommodation Deposit / Bond Liquidity Management Policy. The Policy is designed to ensure compliance with Statutory Prudential requirements. Prudential Standards (Fees and Payments Principles 2014 Part 5) provide for the following:

- protection of refundable deposit balances, accommodation bond balances and entry contribution balances of care recipients
- sound financial management of approved providers
- arrangements by approved providers for the management of refundable deposit balances and accommodation bond balances
- provision of information about the financial management of approved providers

In addition, the Policy is designed to ensure that residents receive repayment of RAD/Bond balance entitlements on a timely basis and within legislated timeframes.

COMMENT

Liquidity Required

The amount of liquidity determined for the 2020/2021 financial year is \$730,297.

A copy of Council’s Liquidity Funds Policy and Calculations is Attachment 1.

Form of Liquidity

The amount of liquidity will be held in the Gwydir Shire Council cash reserve bank accounts, which provides funds at call. From time to time during the financial year, Gwydir Shire Council may also hold term deposits with government insured financial institutions.

Factors considered in liquidity calculations as at 30th June 2020:

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Chairman

1. The total value of Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RADs)/ Bonds held was \$1,622,884.
2. The total number of RAD's/Bonds held was 10.
3. The average Refundable Accommodation Deposit/Bond held was \$649,000.
4. The amount of liquidity required as calculated in accordance with Council's Policy represents 45% of the total value of refundable accommodation deposits/bonds held.
5. The total value of refundable accommodation deposits/bonds refunded during the financial year was \$461,609.
6. The total number of RAD's/bonds refunded during the financial year was four.
7. The average RAD/Bond payout during the financial year was \$115,402.
8. The largest accommodation bond held is \$290,000.
9. The facilities' resident occupancy rate during the year was 96%.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received

FURTHER that Council's Liquidity Funds Policy for Naroo Aged Care facility be adopted

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Naroo's Liquidity Management Policy

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 266/20**

THAT the report be received

FURTHER that Council's Liquidity Funds Policy for Naroo Aged Care facility be adopted.

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Egan)



Naroo Refundable Accommodation Deposit/Bond Liquidity Management Policy

Overview

This Policy will take effect from 1st July 2020. The Policy will be reviewed annually at the end of the financial year (and used to guide the amount of liquidity required for the coming 12 months).

This Policy is designed to ensure compliance with statutory Prudential requirements. In addition, it is designed to ensure that residents receive repayment of RAD/Bond balance entitlements on a timely basis and within legislated timeframes.

Liquidity Required

The amount of liquidity determined for the 2020/2021 financial year is \$730,297. Liquidity Calculator Report is attached.

Form of Liquidity

The amount of liquidity will be held in the Gwydir Shire Council cash reserve bank accounts, which provides funds at call. From time to time in the financial year, Gwydir Shire Council may also hold term deposits with government insured financial institutions.

Factors considered in liquidity calculations as at 30th June 2020:

1. The total value of Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RADs)/ Bonds held was \$1,622,884.
2. The total number of RAD's/Bonds held was 10.
3. The average Refundable Accommodation Deposit/Bond held was \$649,000.
4. The amount of liquidity required as calculated in accordance with this Policy represents 45% of the total value of refundable accommodation deposits/bonds held.
5. The total value of refundable accommodation deposits/bonds refunded during the financial year was \$461,609.
6. The total number of RAD's/bonds refunded during the financial year was four.
7. The average RAD/Bond payout during the financial year was \$115,402.
8. The largest accommodation bond held is \$290,000.
9. The facilities' resident occupancy rate during the year was 96 %.

Attachment 2 - Liquidity Funds Calculator



Number of Beds 36

LIQUID FUNDS REQUIRED AS AT

Resident Bond History for the last three financial years

Year ended	1-Jul-18	1st July 2019	1st July 2020	
Number of Bonds Held	5	7	10	

Total Value of RAD/Bonds Held	\$1,107,884	\$139,884	\$1,622,884	
Average RAD/Bond Value	\$221,576	\$19,983	\$649,000	
Number of Bonds Refunded over the year period	2	3	4	
Average Number of RAD/Bond Refunds in the 3 year	2	3	4	
Total Value of RAD/Bond Refunds in the year	\$357,000	\$588,384	\$461,609	
Net call on funds	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Negative call as a %of RAD/Bonds	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Largest Bond Held as at 30 June 20??			\$290,000	
Largest Bond Held plus safety margin			\$1,622,884	
Largest Annual Negative Call on Funds			\$290,000	
Negative Cell on Funds Adjust for Trend			N/A	
Safety Margin (average net call on funds/average value of new RADS/Bonds in the year)			45%	

Liquidity required from 2020/2021 Financial year (must equal or exceed largest bond held)

Liquidity required as a percentage of Total RADS/Bonds Held as at 30 June 2020 \$730,297

If the last three years have shown no net call on funds and no bonds refunded the largest bond held plus safety margin is the default liquidity requirement

Item 6 Correspondence from Rotary Club of Warialda

FILE REFERENCE 20/25303

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 1. A healthy and cohesive community

OUTCOME: 4.1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED & CONNECTED COMMUNITY

STRATEGY: 4.1.3 Build on our sense of community - OCD - external

AUTHOR General Manager

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

COMMENT

Council has received the attached correspondence from the Warialda Rotary Club requesting the donation of a suitable ride on mower to allow their members to continue maintaining sections of the Reedy Creek, Warialda.

Warialda Rotary is also requesting lockable gates to be installed on the walk bridge over Reedy Creek at the northern end of Plunkett Street to allow access for larger mowers to mow along the creek.

Should Council approve the request for the ride on mower, the Rotary Club would be third in line for a mower once a suitable mower became available.

Correspondence and images of crossings attached.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the correspondence be received

FURTHER that the Club be requested to refine its request regarding the ride-on mower as to whether it is seeking a new mower as opposed to an old Council mower noting that many of the Council's future to-be-traded mowers are already allocated following prior Council decisions

FURTHER if the request is for a new mower that the Club be requested to indicate any contribution that it can make towards the cost

FURTHER that the request regarding the lockable gate be approved and installed.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Request from Warialda Rotary

AT- Images - Reedy Creek Crossings, Warialda

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 267/20**

THAT the correspondence be received

FURTHER that the Club be requested to refine its request regarding the ride-on mower as to whether it is seeking a new mower as opposed to an old Council mower noting that many of the Council's future to-be-traded mowers are already allocated following prior Council decisions

FURTHER if the request is for a new mower that the Club be requested to indicate any contribution that it can make towards the cost

FURTHER that the request regarding the lockable gates be approved and installed.

(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Moore)

Rotary Club of Warialda
District 9650



President	Peter Hancock
Secretary	Phil Ledingham
Treasurer	Ian McFarlane
Club Service Director	Paul Jones
Community Service Director	Curly Moore
Youth and International Service Director	Helen Young

19th October 2020

Mr Max Eastcott
General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council

Dear Max,

The Rotary Club of Warialda maintain the western southern side of Warialda creek from the walk bridge to Captain Cook Park. We have worked closely with Council to significantly improve the appearance and access to this part of the creek. We believe we are maintaining this section of the creek to a high standard at present and would like to continue to do so in the future.

The mower we use is the old river care mower which is much too small for this purpose. If at all possible, The Rotary Club of Warialda would ask that Council give consideration to the donation of a mower that is more suitable, when one becomes available.

Our Club has had some issue with smaller zero turns getting bogged. These are mowers that belong to club members and are not always suitable, depending on the terrain and weather.

Thankyou for your consideration in this matter

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Hancock".

Peter Hancock

Rotary Club of Warialda
District 9650



President	Peter Hancock
Secretary	Phil Ledingham
Treasurer	Ian McFarlane
Club Service Director	Paul Jones
Community Service Director	Curly Moore
Youth and International Service Director	Helen Young

19th October 2020

Mr Max Eastcott
General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council

Dear Max,

At a recent meeting of our club a number of issues were discussed in relation to maintaining the section of Warialda Creek between the walk bridge and Captain Cook Park. Access to this area can be an issue after rain. The low-level crossing installed by Council has worked well, however if there is any moisture on the ground the zero-turns we use easily get bogged.

The section of this creek bank from the walk bridge to the crossing is relatively flat and if we could access this area via the walk bridge end, we would be able to mow this section more easily. The Rotary Club of Warialda would like to request the installation of lockable gates which would allow access for larger mowers onto this section of the creek and we be provided with a key to the lock.

Thankyou for your consideration on this matter

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Hancock".

Peter Hancock

For information regarding Warialda Rotary Club request



Existing fence with arrow showing preferred site for lockable panel



Existing crossing at bottom of Holden Street

This is page number 70 of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 29 October 2020

Chairman

Scanned By: Rmitchell On: 14/10/2020 10:52:30 AM 00001



Cr John Coulton
Mayor
Gwydir Shire Council
Locked Bag 5
BINGARA NSW 2404

RECEIVED
14 OCT 2020
Gwydir Shire Council

Dear Mayor *John,*

Please find enclosed a copy of a Community Recognition Statement I had the pleasure of delivering in the NSW Legislative Assembly on Thursday 24 September 2020.

It was a real honour to have the opportunity to share with my Parliamentary colleagues details of the Warialda All Abilities Park being named as a finalist in the Engineering Excellence Awards run by the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia.

Congratulations and I wish you all the best for the Awards Gala Dinner to be held next year.

Yours sincerely

ADAM MARSHALL MP
Member for Northern Tablelands
Enc:

Well done to you + council!!

09 OCT 2020

Armidale office: Suite 1, 175 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350 Phone: 02 6772 5552 Fax: 02 6772 5026
Moree office: Suites 2-6, 161 Ballo Street, Moree NSW 2400 Phone: 02 6752 5002 Fax: 02 6752 6102
Mail: PO Box 77, Armidale NSW 2350 Email: northernWeb: www.adammarshall.com.au

@a_j_marshall adammarshallmp adammarshallmp



**Community Recognition Statement
Legislative Assembly of NSW**

WARIALDA'S ALL ABILITIES PARK

I congratulate Gwydir Shire Council and the Warialda community on having the Warialda All Abilities Park named as a finalist in the Engineering Excellence Awards run by the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia.

The All Abilities Park is in the running to be the winner of the Design and Construction of a Local Government/Public Works Project less than \$500,000. It was funded by the Gwydir Shire Council, NSW Government and the community and is a park the entire community can be very proud of. With a range of play and exercise equipment that has been specifically designed for all ages and those with mobility issues or a disability, the Warialda All Abilities Park is the region's very first park of the kind.

I wish the Gwydir Shire Council and Warialda community all the best for the Awards Gala Dinner to be held in March 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Adam Marshall'.

ADAM MARSHALL MP
Member for Northern Tablelands
24 September 2020

