



MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING

Held on Thursday 28 July 2022

Commencing at 10:30 am

in the Roxy Conference Room

Present

Councillors: Cr Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr Jim Moore, Cr Geoff Smith, Cr David Coulton, Cr Tiffany Galvin and Cr Lyndon Mulligan

Staff: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Helen Thomas (Manager Finance), Alex Eddy (Manager, Engineering Services), Justin Hellmuth (Business Improvement and IT Coordinator) and Thais Simpson (Administrative Assistant)

Public:

Visitors: Michael Bone (Executive Officer - Procurement & Compliance)

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<https://www.gwydir.nsw.gov.au/Home>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Gwydir Shire Council acknowledges that this meeting is being held on Aboriginal land and recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of Gomeroi people in this land.

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1 OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME - MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor welcomed all present to the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Cr John Coulton and Cr Dr Chris Matthews.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the apologies received from Cr J Coulton, Cr M Dixon OAM and Cr C Matthews together with Mrs Leeah Daley are accepted.

Moved Cr D Coulton, Seconded Cr Galvin

CARRIED

For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 30 June 2022, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr Galvin, Seconded Cr Moore)

CARRIED

For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

4 PRESENTATION

There are two presentations in the Confidential Session relating to health matters within the Gwydir Shire.

Cr Matthews will be joining the meeting over the internet for the discussion on the two presentations.

**5 CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, GIFTS RECEIVED AND
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil

6 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the Council resolve into Confidential Session (11:09 am), 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 Item(s) listed on the Agenda.

(Moved Cr D Coulton, Seconded Cr Galvin)

CARRIED

For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

6.1 Adoption of the Recommendations of the Confidential Session

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 3:19.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the recommendations of the Confidential Session, namely:

Hunter New England Health Presentation

THAT the Council considers the following motion at the August Council Meeting:

THAT the Council supports the petition being promoted by Mr Adam Marshall MP, which requests the NSW Legislative Assembly to:

Split the Hunter New England Health District and re-instate the former New England Area Health Service (which included the North West);

Directly employ doctors in emergency departments in rural and regional district hospitals, with the capacity to provide outpatient services; and;

Dramatically increase the number of nurses employed in rural and regional hospitals with appropriate nurse to patient ratios.

FURTHER that Mr Adam Marshall MP be invited to attend the meeting or advise the Council in more detail regarding the background to the petition.

Rural and Remote Medical Services Ltd Presentation

THAT the Council thank Mr Burdack for his presentation.

FURTHER that once the Council receives RARMS advice regarding its future involvement in the Bingara Medical Practice and the relevant financial details, that a special meeting of the Gwydir Health Alliance be held to discuss the matter.

are adopted.

(Moved Cr Galvin, Seconded Cr D Coulton)

CARRIED

For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 Community Services & Planning Committee Recommendations 14 July 2022

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| File Reference: | NA |
|------------------------|----|

Delivery Program

Goal: 5. Organisational management

Outcome: 5.1 Corporate management

Strategy: 5.1.3 Administrative and support functions

Author: Administration Assistant

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST NIL

IN BRIEF/SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

Community Services & Planning Committee Recommendations:

Organisation & Community Services Report

THAT the report be received.

Executive Services Report

THAT the report be received.

Councillor Reports

THAT the following Councillor Reports are noted:

Unauthorised stock;

Request for Bingara Medical Centre Updates;
Warialda Truck Wash.

Confidential Organisation & Community Services Report

THAT the report be received.

Confidential Community Assets Report

THAT the report be received and noted.

TABLED ITEMS NIL

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the recommendations from the July 2022 Committee Meetings be adopted and noted.

ATTACHMENTS NIL

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the recommendations from the July 2022 Committee Meetings be adopted and noted.

(Moved Cr Galvin, Seconded Cr Mulligan)

CARRIED

For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

7.2 June Investment & Rates Collection Report

File Reference:

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Delivery Program

Goal: 5. Organisational management
Outcome: 5.1 Corporate management
Strategy: 5.1.1 Financial Management and accountability systems
Author: Chief Financial Officer, Helen Thomas

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.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

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 June 2022.

Direct Investments

| Broker | ID | Investment Name | Rating | Type | Next Rollover | Yield | Current Value |
|-------------|---------|-----------------|--------|------|---------------|-------|----------------|
| NAB | 2021.10 | NAB | AA | TD | 23/08/2022 | 0.38% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| NAB | 2021.2 | NAB | AA | TD | 23/08/2022 | 0.38% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| NAB | 2021.3 | NAB | AA | TD | 23/28/2022 | 0.38% | \$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 | \$408,455.23 |
| Tcorp Cash Fund | At Call | Cash | See report | \$ 10,796,234.06 |
| Tcorp Medium Term Fund | At Call | Cash | See report | \$ - |
| Grand Total | | | | \$11,204,689.29 |

Total Investments

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Direct Investments | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | \$11,204,689.29 |
| Grand Total | \$14,204,689.29 |

Cash and Investments

Total Investments

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Direct Investments | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | \$11,204,689.29 |
| Grand Total Investments | \$14,204,689.29 |

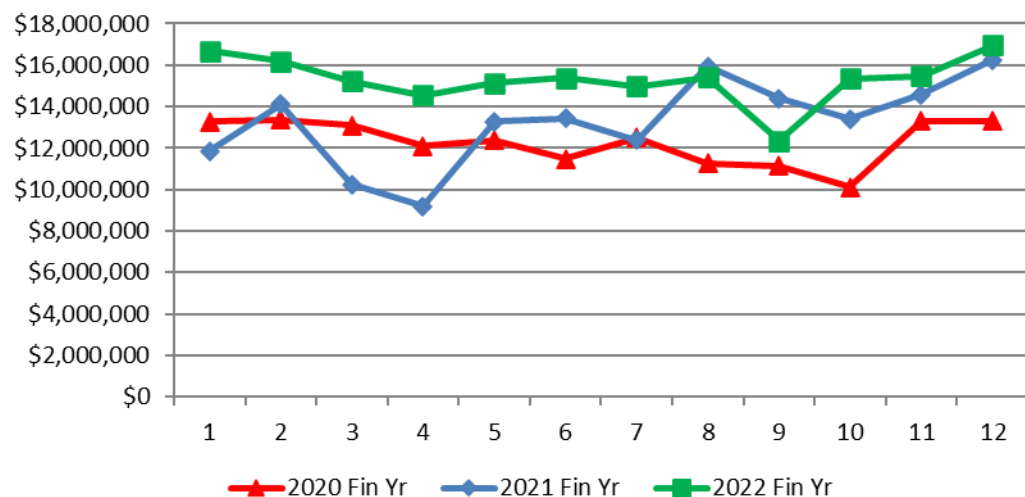
Total Cash and Investments

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Investments | \$14,204,689.29 |
| Cash at bank | \$2,769,885.40 |
| Grand Total Cash and Investments | \$16,974,574.69 |

General Fund Cash

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Total cash and investments | \$16,974,574.69 |
| LESS: | |
| Water fund* | -\$912,136.00 |
| Sewer fund* | -\$2,823,085.98 |
| Waste fund* | -\$4,015,910.48 |
| Other restrictions: | |
| Financial Assistance in Advance | -\$2,200,000.00 |
| Employee leave entitlements* | -\$900,000.00 |
| Contracted Liabilities | -\$3,520,187.00 |
| Asset replacement* | -\$287,689.00 |
| Bonds and deposits | -\$1,126,478.46 |
| Developer contributions | -\$200,000.00 |
| *These figures may change with end of year processing | |
| Discretionary General Fund Cash | \$989,087.77 |

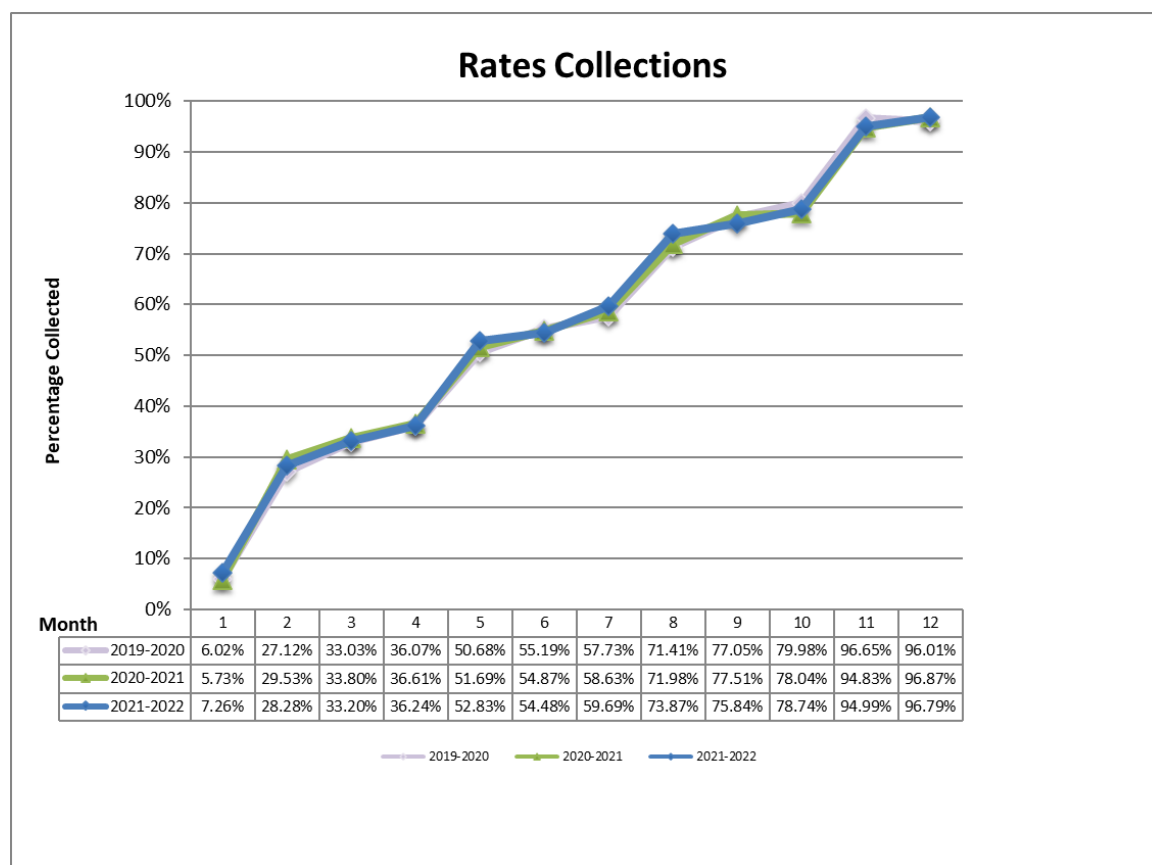
Total cash holdings



I, Helen Thomas, CFO 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 June 2022.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the June Monthly Investment and Rates Collection report be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the June Monthly Investment and Rates Collection report be received.

(Moved Cr Smith, Seconded Cr Mulligan)

CARRIED

**For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan
and Cr Smith**

Against: Nil

7.3 Bingara Community Op Shop Annual Report

File Reference: NA

Delivery Program

Goal: 1. A healthy and cohesive community

Outcome: 1.2 Our community is an inviting and vibrant place to live

Strategy: 2.1.2 Support the growth of our business community

Author: Bev Matthews

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted and received.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

BACKGROUND

The Bingara Community Op Shop is a S355 Committee overseen by Council.

COMMENT

Annual Report 2022

The Op Shop celebrated twelve months of business on the 22nd of February 2022. We are now into our second year with over forty volunteers, with strong support from the community in terms of donations and purchasing and a great reputation for being a hub for community members.

There are six volunteers in the Uniting Church Hall sorting team. The sorting room has undergone great changes and wonderful organisation. Racks and tubs have been purchased and so sorted donations can be easily seen by volunteers wishing to re supply the shop. Since April this year, no items are purchased from the sorting room. The shop is the one point of sale, and all items need to be presented in the shop. Volunteers do not buy items before the community has a chance to do so. The furniture is no longer sold from the verandah but brought to the shop for sale. This policy provides transparency and fairness.

We have been fortunate to have the services of a volunteer who will test and tag our electrical items. This has been a huge boost as we now have an electrical item section of the shop.

The shop has different teams working each day. The daily team leader discusses the days' tasks, and each team member collaborates to complete them. I think that the volunteers feel an ownership with the shop; each volunteers' ideas are valued, and their unique skills appreciated. Each six months we all come together to thoroughly sort, clean, reorganise and restock the shop for the next season. This is a huge task. The end of summer 'purge' saw fifteen volunteers on each of three days at the shop. This is something to be proud of.

Our tasks and activities venture further than just the sorting room and the shop.

We also:

1. Set up a pop-up shop in North Star. We are about to try this again and with the support of the Post Office worker, Amanda, will have a collection donation box there and also hold another pop-up shop.
2. A very successful fashion parade was held in the library. The clothes, models and organisation for that were excellent.
3. An anniversary celebration was held at the shop in February.
4. A Games Day was held to raise money for the flood victims, and we also sponsored The Big Heart Barbecue which was held to raise money too.
5. Well cleaned and ironed clothing were also taken to a halfway point and given to the Lions President of Bangalow for him to distribute to folks in need.
6. Our liaison with Tingha continues.
7. The recent Orange festival saw us enter a float, set up a fifties room as well as have soup for sale.
8. At Christmas a Magic Cave was set up for the children to wonder at as they looked at the decorations and lights.
9. The CWA celebrations were supported by a specialty's sale and staged room.
10. Repurposing has also been a focus. This is being continued this year with a craft group meeting weekly to create 'quirky' items for the Pulse Festival pop up shop.
11. We are now trading for extended hours on Saturdays and for four hours on Sundays on the third weekend of each month. Pre-Christmas we also traded at night on Fridays.
12. The shop was also part of the Lifestyle magazine photo shoot in Bingara. We are proud to have been part of this and we did not have to pay to be included. The shop was considered to be 'somewhat special'.
13. Policy meetings have been held. These are a work in progress as we await a confirmed liaison officer and 355 manual to work with. Some of our policies have been developed in a reactionary way. Others, such as shop procedures, have been developed through necessity.
14. Our newest project is in its initial phase. The Volunteers' Vegetable Venture. Willing volunteers are planting extra vegetables in their personal gardens, and we will be distributing these each Thursday as from September, provided are gardens do well, on a 'pay what you can' basis.
15. A new storage shed has been built in the yard, the hotel side fence realigned and re-fenced, an air conditioner put in and an awning ordered for the front of the shop.
16. We take pride in our front window displays as they reflect current town happenings.

The sales within the shop continue to be amazing. Our volunteers have a reputation for being friendly and extremely helpful. Word of mouth is sound marketing as are the Facebook posts each day motivating people to shop with us. We have also been advertising on the local radio.

We continue to donate to the community as per the financial report.

It is with pride that I present this report of The Bingara Community Op Shop.

Bev Matthews
President
The Bingara Community Op Shop





























The Financial Report outlining the Op Shop's operations over the last year is attached.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Annual Financial Report - Bingara Community Op Shop [7.3.1 - 2 pages]

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the report be received and noted.

FURTHER that the members of the Bingara Community Op Shop Committee are congratulated on the outstanding success of the operation.

(Moved Cr Galvin, Seconded Cr Mulligan)

CARRIED

For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

Bingara Community Op Shop

Annual Financial Report 2021 – 2022

Income and expenditure for the Bingara Community Op Shop, with details of donations made during the year.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Nett | \$10,347.46 |
| Income | \$66,282.23 |
| # | |
| Expenses | \$55,934.77 |
| Donations | \$30,564.50 |
| Reimbursements | \$10,985.35 |
| Rent Paid | \$6,040.00 |
| IGA account | \$2,089.66 |
| Electricity | \$1,133.28 |
| Advertising | \$415.00 |
| Newsagency | \$289.00 |
| Bank Charges | \$155.98 |
| Water | \$ 94.53 |
| Building Material | \$740.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$3427.93 |

Donations \$30,564.50

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Westpac Rescue Helicopter | \$5,000.00 |
| Bingara Medical Practice | \$4,064.50 |
| Bingara Community Comfort | \$3,000.00 |
| Bingara Preschool | \$2,000.00 |
| Lions Club of Bingara | \$2,000.00 |
| Bingara CWA | \$2,000.00 |
| Country Edu Foundation | \$2,000.00 |
| Gwymac | \$2,000.00 |
| Bingara Central School | \$2,000.00 |
| Bingara Minor League | \$2,000.00 |
| Friends of Touriadi | \$2,000.00 |
| Bingara Anglican Parish | \$1,000.00 |
| Bingara Hospital | \$1,000.00 |
| Bingara Big Bash Tennis | \$500.00 |

Note: Reimbursements denotes equipment, material and supplies purchased by volunteers and subsequently reimbursed



Left: Square cash register purchased to make efpos possible and keeping track of purchases easier. Below: small shed erected by volunteers for storage.



Ankle Brachial Index machine purchased for Bingara Doctors' surgery.

7.4 Councillor Superannuation

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| File Reference: | . |
|------------------------|---|

Delivery Program

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Goal: | 5. Organisational management |
| Outcome: | 5.1 Corporate management |
| Strategy: | 5.1.1 Financial Management and accountability systems |
| Author: | Chief Financial Officer, Helen Thomas |

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

Following an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 in 2021, Council may make payments to a Councillor as a contribution to a superannuation account nominated by their councillors, starting from the financial year commencing on 1 July 2022. The making of superannuation contribution payments for councillors is optional and is at each council's discretion.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

BACKGROUND

Should Council resolve to make superannuation contribution payments for its councillors, the amount of the payment is to be the amount the council would have been required to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 as superannuation if the councillors were employees of the council. As of 1 July 2022, the superannuation guarantee rate will be 10.5%. The rate will increase by half a percent each year until 1 July 2025 when it reaches 12% with the superannuation contribution payment is to be paid at the same intervals as the annual fee is paid to councillors.

To receive a superannuation contribution payment, each Councillor must first nominate a superannuation account for the payment before the end of the month to which the payment relates. The superannuation account nominated by councillors must be an account for superannuation or retirement benefits from a scheme or fund to which the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act applies.

Councils must not make a superannuation contribution payment for a Councillor if the Councillor fails to nominate an eligible superannuation account for the payment before the end of the month to which the payment relates.

Individual councillors may opt out of receiving superannuation contribution payments or opt to receive reduced payments. Councillors must do so in writing.

Councils must not make superannuation contribution payments for councillors during any period in which they are suspended from their civic office or their right to be paid any fee or other remuneration, or expense, is suspended under the Act.

Councillors are also not entitled to receive a superannuation contribution payment during any period in which they are not entitled to receive their fee under section 254A of the Act because they are absent.

COMMENT

The value of superannuation payments to Councillors have been included in the adopted budget for 2022-2023 Financial Year.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council make superannuation contribution payments for Councillors, in addition to the annual fees, with the amount of the payment to be the amount the Council would have been required to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 as superannuation if the Councillors were employees of the Council.

THAT the Council notes that individual Councillors may opt out of receiving superannuation contribution payments or opt to receive reduced payments.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

THAT the Council make superannuation contribution payments for Councillors, in addition to the annual fees, with the amount of the payment to be the amount the Council would have been required to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 as superannuation if the Councillors were employees of the Council.

FURTHER that the Council notes that individual Councillors may opt out of receiving superannuation contribution payments or opt to receive reduced payments.

(Moved Cr Galvin, Seconded Cr Mulligan)

CARRIED

**For: Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Moore, Cr Mulligan
and Cr Smith**

Against: Nil

8 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cr Galvin

Cr Galvin advised the meeting that on her way to this meeting she was complemented by a couple of visitors on the beauty and friendliness of the town.

Cr D Coulton

Cr D Coulton advised the meeting that he was informed by Mr David Jurd that the 200th Anniversary of Allen Cunningham's trek across the Shire is occurring in 2027.

Cr Smith

Cr Smith requested that consideration be given to some form of community education program in the operation of the various publicly available Defibrillator devices scattered around the Shire to allow for a degree of confidence to users if required in an emergency.

Cr Moore

Cr Moore reported on the following matters:

Eden Farms Bundaberg – Cr Moore recently had the opportunity to look at this operation and advised that it may be a suitable operation for Gwydir; and;

He advised that Warialda has had several new businesses open.

Cr Egan

Cr Egan reported on the following matters:

The local Planning Panel approved the North Star Quarry;

Representatives from the proposed Ashford coking coal operation met with Council to discuss the potential of 1.5 million tons being transported across the Shire to North Star using Getta Getta Road;

Cr Egan requested an update on the Bingara Skate Park proposal, which was provided; and;

Will we please ensure that the proposed leasing of the various properties including the Bingara and Warialda Caravan Parks and swimming pools as well as the Cranky Rock Reserve, is promoted more broadly.

General Manager

The General Manager advised the meeting that the Bingara Committee Op Shop has an approval for a shed but it was determined as a Class 6 Building, with onerous and

unreasonable conditions, rather than a Class 10 (a) shed or private garage. It is intended to modify the consent to better reflect the actual building.

9 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 3:20 pm.