

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY COMMITTEE

## **AGENDA**

### **4 FEBRUARY 2020**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE on Tuesday, 4 February 2020.

David Waddell

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** 

For apologies please contact Administration on 6393 8218.

### **AGENDA**

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons given for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee at this meeting.

#### **2 COMMITTEE MINUTES**

## 2.1 MINUTES OF THE COMPANION ANIMALS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE OF 2 DECEMBER 2019

RECORD NUMBER: 2019/2718

AUTHOR: Rosemary Reid, Draftsperson

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The minutes of the Companion Animals Community Committee held on the 2 December 2019 are provided to the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee for adoption.

#### LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "6.1 Live - Provide services and facilities that enable Council to fulfil its obligations under the Companion Animal Act".

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Within planned budget.

#### POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

#### RECOMMENDATION

- 1 That Council acknowledge the reports presented to the Companion Animals Community Committee at its meeting held on 2 December 2019.
- 2 That Council determine recommendations *3.1 and 3.2* from the minutes of the Companion Animals Community Committee meeting of 2 December 2019.

Item 3.1

That Council provide Responsible Cat Ownership brochures to the Ploughmans Wetlands Care Group for distribution.

Item 3.2

That Council progresses the naming of this new parkland area including the Off Leash Area.

3 That the remainder of the minutes of the Companion Animals Community Committee at its meeting held on 2 December 2019 be adopted.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Companion Animals Community Committee held on 2 December 2019
- 2 CACC 2 December 2019 Agenda, D20/3461.

#### ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

#### **MINUTES OF THE**

#### COMPANION ANIMALS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

HELD IN COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE
ON 2 DECEMBER 2019
COMMENCING AT 5.33PM

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Mr Neil Jones, Mrs Anne Reith, Mrs Susan Sanders, Ms Jan Tallents, Acting Director Development Services, Companion Animal Registrar

#### 1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

#### RESOLVED

#### Ms A Reith/Mr N Jones

That the apologies be accepted from Ms Debra Coleman, Mrs Pam Davis, Ms Adrienne Hiskens, Ms Helen Wood, for the Companion Animals Community Committee meeting on 2 December 2019.

#### 1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

1.3 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

#### **2 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

#### Mr N Jones/Ms S Sanders

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Companion Animals Community Committee held on 2 September 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Companion Animals Community Committee meeting held on 2 September 2019.

#### 3 PRESENTATIONS

#### 3.1 UPDATES FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/2615

The RSPCA support group mentioned the successful microchipping and vaccination day held in October where 130 dogs were implanted. Their funds are used for subsidised desexing vouchers and support to the Animal Shelter in Orange. The Committee discussed the need for welfare groups to ensure microchip identification numbers of animals are immediately uploaded onto the NSW Companion Animals Register rather than forwarding the paper work to Council at a later date for uploading.

The Ploughmans Wetlands Care Group have distributed letters to adjoining owners reminding them of their responsibilities regarding cats.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Ms S Sanders/Ms J Tallents

That Council provide Responsible Cat Ownership brochures to the Ploughmans Wetlands Care Group for distribution.

#### 3.2 NORTH ORANGE OFF LEASH AREA

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/2616

An update on the progress of the North Orange Off Leash area was provided to committee members. The fencing has been completed and water bubblers, seating and signage are to be completed in the next few weeks.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr N Jones/Cr S Nugent

That Council progresses the naming of this new parkland area including the Off Leash Area.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Ms A Reith/Mr N Jones

That thanks be extended to the Companion Animal Registrar Rosemary Reid on her involvement in managing the North Orange Off Leash Area project.

#### 3.3 POUND CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/2617

The pound construction in Astill Drive is progressing slowly with an estimated completion of the shed portion being 10 February 2020. Advertising for the Pound Co-Ordinator to be done in January 2020.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Ms J Tallents/Ms S Sanders

That the report be accepted.

#### 3.4 CRM STATISTICS - SEPTEMBER -NOVEMBER 2019

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/2620

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Mr N Jones/Ms A Reith

That the report be accepted.

#### 3.5 Cr Stephen Nugent - Meeting Dates for 2020

Meeting dates for 2020 were discussed with a change made to the week held.

Dates for 2020

Monday 10 February 2020

Monday 11 May 2020

Monday 10 August 20202

Monday 9 November 2020

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.46PM



### **AGENDA**

### **2 DECEMBER 2019**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that a COMPANION ANIMALS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE on Monday, 2 December 2019 commencing at 5.30PM.

David Waddell

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** 

For apologies please contact Rosemary Reid on 6393 8229.

**2 DECEMBER 2019** 

#### **AGENDA**

#### **EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

In the event of an emergency, the building may be evacuated. You will be required to vacate the building. The Committee Clerk will now identify the emergency muster point.

Under no circumstances is anyone permitted to re-enter the building until the all clear has been given and the area deemed safe by authorised personnel.

In the event of an evacuation, a member of Council staff will assist any member of the public with a disability to vacate the building.

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**2 DECEMBER 2019** 

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### **MEMBERS**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Cr S Munro, Ms Debra Coleman, Mrs Pam Davis, Ms Adrienne Hiskens, Mr Neil Jones, Mrs Anne Reith, Mrs Susan Sanders, Ms Jasmine Smart, Ms Jan Tallents, Mr John Wills, Ms Helen Wood, Director Development Services, Manager Building and Environment, Companion Animal Registrar

#### 1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

### 1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

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As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Companion Animals Community Committee at this meeting.

#### 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Companion Animals Community Committee held on 2 September 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate records of the proceedings of the Companion Animals Community Committee meeting held on 2 September 2019.

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**2 DECEMBER 2019** 

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Companion Animals Community Committee held on 2 September 2019

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#### **ORANGE CITY COUNCIL**

#### MINUTES OF THE

#### COMPANION ANIMALS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

HELD IN COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE
ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2019
COMMENCING AT 5.30PM

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Mr Neil Jones, Mrs Anne Reith, Mrs Susan Sanders, Ms Jasmine Smart, Ms Helen Wood, Acting Director Development Services, Companion Animal Registrar

#### 1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

#### **RESOLVED**

#### Ms A Reith/Ms H Wood

That the apologies be accepted from Ms D. Coleman, Mrs P. Davis, Ms A Hiskens and Ms J. Tallents for the Companion Animals Community Committee meeting on 2 September 2019. Mr John Wills tendered his resignation from the Committee on 27 August 2019.

#### 1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

1.3 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

#### 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### **RESOLVED**

#### Mr N Jones/Ms H Wood

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Companion Animals Community Committee held on 3 June 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Companion Animals Community Committee meeting held on 3 June 2019.

#### MINUTES OF COMPANION ANIMALS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

2 SEPTEMBER 2019

#### 3 PRESENTATIONS

#### 3.1 COUNCIL POUND UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1813

Contract for the building of the pound is to be finalised on 3 September for completion by December 2019.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr M Hodges/Mrs R Reid

That the report on Council Pound Update be accepted.

#### 3.2 NORTH ORANGE LEASH FREE AREA

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1814

An estimate of the cost of \$22,960 to develop the off leash area was submitted to the Committee with work to begin shortly on the fencing component.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr N Jones/Ms A Reith

That construction of the North Orange off leash area (Webb Street) be carried out within the Committee budget allocation for this financial year. This should provide for fencing, signage, bins and water fountains. Further work to be done as the budget allows.

#### 3.3 COMPANION ANIMAL STATISTICS

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1810

#### RECOMMENDATION

Ms A Reith/Ms S Sanders

That the report on the Customer Request Statistics and Dog Attacks by breed be accepted.

#### 3.4 DOG ATTACKS AND EDUCATION

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1815

Discussion on what needs to be included in the education campaign and what Deb Coleman wanted to raise. A Dogs in the Park day to be held at the Showground on 29 September 2019. This will include health checks, agility, stalls and is sponsored by St George Bank.

The next RSPCA vaccination and microchipping day to be held Saturday 26 October at Glenroi Community Centre. Cost is \$10.00. Also desexing vouchers from the RSPCA will be available on the day.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Ms J Smart/Ms A Reith

That the companion animal events be advertised on the Council What's On page by the organisers of the events.

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#### MINUTES OF COMPANION ANIMALS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

2 SEPTEMBER 2019

#### 3.5 CAT MANAGEMENT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1816

Monitoring and trapping of cats within the wetlands areas and general education of cat owners living in adjoining residential area was discussed. Rangers are to make contact with cat trappers and obtain prices and methods used, Council is not keen to use this control method.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr N Jones/Ms A Reith

That an education program using the existing Council brochures be carried out in surrounding areas of the wetlands by the Ploughmans Wetlands Care Group.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS.**

Thank you to Mr John Wills for being a valuable member of the Companion Animal Community Committee over the past years.

The committee would like an additional dog rubbish bin at Bloomfield park on the Huntley Road end, also an additional sign "dogs must be on a lead" at the Bargwanna Road entrance to Gosling Creek Reserve. The Ploughmans Wetlands Care Group have also requested an additional garbage bin and dog bag dispenser in Stirling Avenue adjacent to the pathway entrance to the Ploughmans Wetlands.

#### THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.58PM

**2 DECEMBER 2019** 

#### **3 PRESENTATIONS**

#### 3.1 UPDATES FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Verbal updates from each committee member outlining their group's activities and interests

**2 DECEMBER 2019** 

#### 3.2 NORTH ORANGE OFF LEASH AREA

Verbal report from Acting Director Development Services regarding the progress of the North Orange Off leash Park.

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COMPANION	ANIMAIS	COMMUNITY	COMMITTEE
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**2 DECEMBER 2019** 

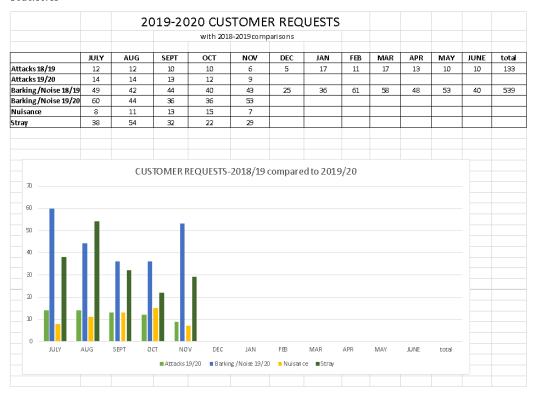
#### 3.3 POUND CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

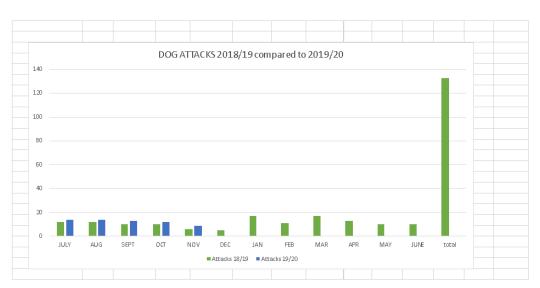
Verbal report by Acting Director Development Services.

#### **2 DECEMBER 2019**

#### 3.4 CRM STATISTICS - SEPTEMBER -NOVEMBER 2019

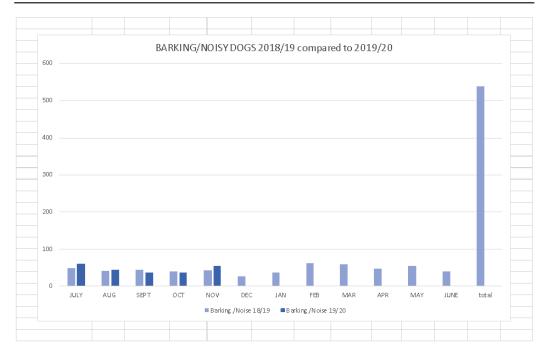
#### Statistics





#### **2 DECEMBER 2019**

3.4 CRM Statistics - September -November 2019



## 2.2 MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING - 9 AUGUST 2019

RECORD NUMBER: 2020/96

AUTHOR: David Waddell, Chief Executive Officer

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Environmental Sustainability Community Committee met on 9 August 2019 and the recommendations from that meeting are presented to the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee for adoption.

#### LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "7.1 Preserve - Engage with the community to develop plans for growth and development that value the local environment".

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### **POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

2.2 Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee Meeting - 9
August 2019

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- That Council acknowledge the reports presented to the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at its meeting held on 9 August 2019.
- 2 That Council determine recommendations of Matters Arising from the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting of 9 August 2019 being:

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

- Council should investigate the heating side of the airconditioning units on the Council building now that the chillers have been replaced to increase efficiency in the cooler months. The Acting General Manager (now CEO) will put Robert Alford in touch with Damian West in regards to this.
- Committee to speak to Essential Energy regarding the street light control wire, the point where they trim trees back, and if this will change due to the Southern Lights Project.

#### **MATTER ARISING**

That Council staff follow up on the recommendation from ESCC to reduce Council's Energy use by 20%, which was adopted by Council at the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee Meeting, and report back to the Committee with a progress update.

That the remainder of the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at its meeting held on 9 August 2019 be adopted.

#### **FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Consideration has been given to the recommendation's impact on Council's service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 9 August 2019
- 2 ESCC 9 August 2019 Agenda, D20/3426 J

#### ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE** 

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 3, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE
ON 9 AUGUST 2019
COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Ms Shahreen Alford, Mr Robert Alford, Mr Ronald Finch, Mr Gavin Hillier, Mrs Kate Hook, Mr Nick King, Mr Cyril Smith, Ms Kate Willoughby, Mr Ken Freedman, Acting General Manager, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support

#### 1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Mrs Melissa Brown handed in her resignation for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee due to conflicting commitments. The Committee would like to thank Mel for her contributions during her time as a member.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the apologies be accepted from Mr Andrew Kennedy, Cr J McRae, Cr M Previtera, Mrs Neina Campbell, Miss Anwen Carney, Mr Daniel Fock, Dr David Mallard, Ms Melanie McDonell, Mrs Anne Salter and Mr Peter West for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting on 9 August 2019.

#### 1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

1.3 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

#### 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 14 June 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 14 June 2019.

#### **3 PRESENTATIONS**

#### 3.1 SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEEK - JOHN MILLS (ROTARY)

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1647

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the report presented to the Committee, by Mr John Mills of Rotary, be acknowledged.

#### 3.2 UPDATE REPORTS - ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1646

National Tree day at Lake Canobolas was a huge success with 184 in attendance.

A meeting was held with Matt Kean, the Minister for Energy and Environment, GM of Cabonne Council and the Mayor at Mt Canobolas regarding the bike track. Matt Kean will be the decider on updating the current plan of management, which dictates whether we can or cannot lodge a DA for the site.

Wangarang has been commissioned to clean up the Northern Distributor Road, a project which is currently underway. There is more media planned in regards to this. They will be focusing on the NDR from the highway to Forbes Road.

The replacement of the airconditioner chillers at the Council building is underway.

Council approved the Southern Lights in Orange on Tuesday 6 August. The project will change 8500 bulbs, all the street lights in Orange, to LED. This means the entire light fixture at the top of the pole will be replaced. The new fixtures are fitted with smart controllers which means the lights can be dimmed, brightened and switched on and off remotely. Essential Energy will control these changes, at request of Council. This change saves approximately \$500,000 as well as having huge savings in CO2 and kilowatt-hours. One issue arising is the catenary lighting (overhanging).

Electricity Procurement is still on track, with the minimum 20% renewable being adopted. This figure can be changed at any time, by vote of Council, but the idea is to run it for a year or so to see how it goes. It is likely it will be completed as early as Christmas time this year.

A tour of the Environmental Zone in Clifton Grove is proposed for some time in the future, with the assistance of Peter West. The hope is that more effort can be made to protect areas like these in the LGA.

The NSW Drought Committee met yesterday. There were talks of lowering the pump threshold to use the Macquarie pipeline and lowering or completely stopping the Environmental Flow from Suma Park to Summer Hill Creek.

The first Electric Fleet Vehicle purchased by Council arrived last month.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the verbal report by the Acting General Manger be acknowledged.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

- Council should investigate the heating side of the airconditioning units on the Council building now that the chillers have been replaced to increase efficiency in the cooler months. The Acting General Manager will put Robert Alford in touch with Damian West in regards to this.
- 2 Committee to speak to Essential Energy regarding the street light control wire, the point where they trim trees back, and if this will change due to the Southern Lights Project.

#### 4 BIODIVERSITY

#### 4.1 BIODIVERSITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1658

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the discussion by the Committee on Biodiversity be acknowledged.

#### 4.2 BIODIVERSITY SUB-GROUP UPDATE - BY PETER WEST

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1645

Mr Peter West was an apology for this meeting, however, Ms Shahreen Alford presented his update to the Committee.

Emily from Envirofactor presented on Biodiversity, her presentations were well received. A commitment has been made by Council with Emily to undertake the next steps in the project.

Emily has collated a variety of information from different sources to help create better and more accurate resources for Council, and possibly other organisations, to utilise when it comes to recognising and understanding Biodiversity in the Orange LGA. The information is focused on plant and animal species, as well as habitats in the LGA.

The Committee discussed collecting and collating data on Biodiversity specific to the Mt Canobolas National Park.

Council's Heritage Coordinator, Alison Russell, has put together a register of, items and areas in Orange which have heritage significance. There are calls for the Committee members to offer suggestions as this is updates regularly. The suggestion was that these items/areas are included in Councils plan to manage and protect biodiverse areas.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Cr S Nugent/Ms S Alford

That the verbal report, presented by Shahreen Alford, be acknowledged.

#### 5 ENERGY

#### 5.1 ENERGY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1660

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the verbal report from the Acting General Manager be acknowledged.

#### **MATTER ARISING**

That Council staff follow up on the recommendation from ESCC to reduce Council's Energy use by 20%, which was adopted by Council at the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee Meeting, and report back to the Committee with a progress update.

#### 5.2 STRATEGIES FOR LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES WEBINAR - BY CR STEPHEN NUGENT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1644

The NSW Government held a Webinar on Low Carbon Communities on Wednesday 31 July 2019.

The main goals where outlined, which are to reach net 0 emissions by 2030 and limit global warming to 1.5°C.

There were various case studies presented by other Councils, presenting their goals, projects and financial savings. Two projects that stuck out where EV Expo and Sunspot.

An EV Expo has already been organised for Orange through Future in Orange. Sunspot is a Council funded project which identifies roofs suitable for solar installation. While this is not a project in Orange, a community owned renewable energy source, a solar farm, has been proposed for Orange.

Cr Nugent will circulate the link of the recording of the Webinar to committee members.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the verbal report by Councillor Nugent be acknowledged and the link be circulated to members

#### 7.2 TRANSITIONING TO A WATER SENSITIVE CITY - BY CYRIL SMITH

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1643

A report was distributed and discussion had regarding this item.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the report distributed to Committee Members and the verbal discussion lead by Mr Cyril Smith be acknowledged

<sup>\*\*</sup>Mr Cyril Smith left the meeting with the time being 9.30am\*\*

#### 6 WASTE

#### 6.1 WASTE UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1661

Orange Waste Project- 2013, saw the construction of a new waste recovery centre on Euchareena Road. It also saw the introduction of the green organics bins and collection and the compost facility.

Every 5 years, an Independent Environmental Audit of the facility is conducted. Out of 421 Conditions of Approval, there were only 6 issues, which have since been rectified, landmarking Orange as the benchmark in NSW for establishment of a new landfill. The results have been sent to the Department of Planning.

Also at Euchareena Road, Cell 3 has been completed, adding a further 6 years to the lifespan of the landfill site and solar panels are set to be installed on the site.

Bin and Truck audits have been undertaken by Envirocon, results pending.

The curbside recyclables (yellow bins) collected in Orange are received by Busy Australia. 6 Council's, including Orange, come through Orange's transfer facility.

Orange has a 50/50 arrangement with Busy for the 10c refundable recyclables. The pricing cost of processing recyclables has increased by approx. \$60/tonne which equates to about \$200,000/year.

The Hazardous Waste Annual Collection day is approaching, and will occur at a date to be announced in October.

Netwaste is doing an evaluation with 30 Councils looking at Mattress Recycling. The plan for Orange is the introduction of a cage to collect the mattresses. From there, the materials can be recovered and recycled. The time frame for this is looking like sometime in September.

Victoria has banned all E-Waste from going into landfill. Orange has the facilities for the recovery of electrical waste, however it is not widely advertised. There was a suggestion to include an E-Waste bin at the Expo.

Mrs Kate Willoughby has introduced a school group competition, called Litter Free Lunchboxes, aiming to reduce soft plastic waste in schools, such as chip packets, bottle lids and cling wrap etc. The competition may outreach to preschool/childcare centres with kitchens to have litter/waste free kitchens. Tidy Towns and ESCC are working with other organisations to determine prizes for the best school canteen, individual and childcare kitchen that does the best. The aim is to get the competition running in November for Sustainable Living Week.

A tour of the Euchareena Road facility has been organised for Friday 27 September 2019. Committee members who wish to attend are asked to meet at the Civic Centre carpark at 8.30am, Council vehicles will be used to carpool to the site. The tour will last approximately 3 hours, concluding at 11.30. An invitation will be sent to all members.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Cr S Nugent/Mrs K Willoughby

That the verbal report from Council's Manager Waste Services and Technical Support be acknowledged.

#### MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

9 AUGUST 2019

#### 6.2 PLASTIC FREE JULY EVENT DEBRIEF - BY KATE HOOK

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1649

The event was not as successful as last year, having been swamped by the Climate Emergency.

No pop-up stalls occurred, however as the name has changed to Plastic Free Orange, the suggestion was to have information circulated to the community all year round.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mrs K Hook

That the update presented by Mrs Kate Hook be acknowledged.

#### 6.3 BIOPLASTIC POLICY - BY KATE WILLOUGHBY

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1641

#### Report:

The Committee has requested that Council look into a Policy for Bioplastics integrating into the waste recovery processes.

Currently Wagga Wagga allows bioplastic bags in their greenwaste and have 3% contamination.

#### Response:

Orange currently does not accept bioplastic bags. The waste recovering process for greenwaste was developed here prior to grant funding being made available, which other Council's like Wagga and Dubbo have had, to establish education programs and distribution of products etc.

The current contamination in Orange's greenwaste compost is under 0.5%. The compost has taken 6 years to get to Australian Standard and it is organically certified. Allowing bioplastics creates room for error, as manufacturers are creating plastics to appear bioplastic and it becomes difficult or impossible to distinguish.

Dubbo has had issues with contamination in their green waste from plastics.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Cr S Nugent/Mrs K Willoughby

That the verbal report from Mrs Kate Willoughby and the response from Council's Manager Waste Services and Technical Support be acknowledged

#### **MATTER ARISING**

The Global Climate Strike is on Friday 20 September 2019.

#### 7 WATER

#### 7.1 WATER UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1663

ECCO has made a submission against the Macquarie Pipeline and Summer Hill Creek decisions (See item 3.2). More discussion next meeting (Item 7.4).

Currently the Cadia Mine case regarding the receival of water is in the Courts, however the case is addressing whether they should be paying for it rather than whether they should be getting it at all.

The Committee has requested more information in relation to the above in order to make an informed decision regarding item 7.4.

The Committee has suggested gearing the Climate Emergency talk towards water to try and engage more of the active Council. Currently only 3 are on board with the Climate Emergency, with the other 9 having been unable to attend briefing sessions regarding the matter.

The Committee has requested that contingency plans for the day when we may hit ground zero with water be developed and advertised to the community. This could help in calming fears members have about what will happen if we do run out of water.

A Networking group, facilitated through ESCC by Members Robert Alford and Nick King be created, engaging members of the community to be involved in the discussion in water and climate etc. Robert to send invitations to Council Staff, John Francis and Wayne Beatty. Kate Hook will be the representative from Future in Orange.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the verbal information presented to the committee be acknowledged.

DUE TO THE QUORUM NO LONGER BEING MET THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50AM.

THE REMAINING ITEMS HAVE BEEN DEFERRED TO THE NEXT MEETING.

#### 7.3 WATER SAVING MEASURES - BY CYRIL SMITH

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1662

Deferred to future meeting date

#### 7.4 WATER ISSUES - MACQUARIE PIPELINE AND SUMMER HILL CREEK - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1664

Deferred to future meeting date

#### 7.5 POPULATION GROWTH AND WATER SUPPLY - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1666

#### MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

9 AUGUST 2019

Deferred to future meeting date

#### **8 OTHER BUSINESS**

#### 8.1 COMMUNITY EDUCATION WORKING GROUP UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1665

Deferred to future meeting date

#### 8.2 GOSLING CREEK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT REVIEW - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1667

Deferred to future meeting date

#### 8.3 IMPACT OF CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS IN ORANGE - BY ROBERT ALFORD

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1640

Deferred to future meeting date

#### 8.4 CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1668

Deferred to future meeting date

#### 8.5 ACTION ITEMS UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1648

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Deferred to next meeting



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

### **AGENDA**

### 9 AUGUST 2019

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL will be held in the COMMITTEE ROOM 3, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE on Friday, 9 August 2019 commencing at 8.00AM.

David Waddell

**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER** 

For apologies please contact Margaret Morgan on 6393 8049.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

9 AUGUST 2019

#### **AGENDA**

#### **EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

In the event of an emergency, the building may be evacuated. You will be required to vacate the building. The Committee Clerk will now identify the emergency muster point.

Under no circumstances is anyone permitted to re-enter the building until the all clear has been given and the area deemed safe by authorised personnel.

In the event of an evacuation, a member of Council staff will assist any member of the public with a disability to vacate the building.

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE 9 AUGUS			2019
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9 AUGUST 2019

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

# **MEMBERS**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Cr J McRae, Cr M Previtera, Ms Shahreen Alford, Mr Robert Alford, Mrs Melissa Brown, Mrs Neina Campbell, Miss Anwen Carney, Mr Ronald Finch, Mr Daniel Fock, Mr Gavin Hillier, Mrs Kate Hook, Mr Andrew Kennedy, Mr Nick King, Dr David Mallard, Ms Melanie McDonell, Mrs Anne Salter, Mr Cyril Smith, Mr Peter West, Ms Kate Willoughby, Mr Ken Freedman, Director Development Services, Manager Building and Environment, Water Treatment Manager, Manager City Presentation, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support, Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager, Museum and Heritage Coordinator, Parks Supervisor, Project and Research Officer, Water Management Officer

#### 1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Melissa Brown has handed in her resignation for her role on the environmental sustainability community committee due to a rise in conflicting commitments. The committee would like to thank Mel for her contributions to the committee during the term

#### 1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

# 1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons given for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

# RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at this meeting.

9 AUGUST 2019

# 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

# RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 14 June 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate records of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 14 June 2019.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 14 June 2019

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# **ORANGE CITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 3, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE

ON 14 JUNE 2019

COMMENCING AT 8.01AM

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

# **ATTENDANCE**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Cr J McRae (8.06am), Cr M Previtera (8.13am), Ms Shahreen Alford, Mr Robert Alford, Miss Anwen Carney, Mr Gavin Hillier, Mrs Kate Hook (8.31am), Mr Nick King, Ms Melanie McDonell, Mr Cyril Smith, Mr Peter West, Ms Kate Willoughby, Acting General Manager, Acting Director Development Services, Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager

# 1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### Mr R Alford/Mr P West

That the apologies be accepted from Mrs Melissa Brown, Mrs Neina Campbell, Mr Ronald Finch, Mr Daniel Fock, Mr Ken Freedman, Mr Andrew Kennedy, Dr David Mallard and Mrs Anne Salter for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting on 14 June 2019.

# 1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

# 1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

# 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### RECOMMENDATION

# Mr C Smith/Mr N King

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 12 April 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) with one amendment to Item 3.7 - 1, be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 12 April 2019.

#### 3 PRESENTATIONS

# 3.1 ACTION UPDATES

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1214

The action updates report and the corresponding group reports where held in conjunction with one another.

#### **BIODIVERSITY SUB GROUP**

All the data has been collated and a date for this to be presented to the committee by EnviroFactor has been determined and resolved as Friday 21 June at 8 am.

#### **EDUCATION SUB GROUP**

Message Boards - Council has access to electronic message boards (signboards) that are able to broadcast messages. There is also access to LCD Screens in the Civic Centre Foyer and Visitors Centre. Digital Boards are in conversation for the FutureCities Project.

Committee Members need to Liaise with the Education Sub-Group to come up with brief messages to broadcast on the message boards and screens and send them to the Committee Clerk. Information topics that were suggested include:

- Rain and Weather Forecast
- Current Temperature
- Current water storage level and restrictions.

This information has also been requested to be broadcast on Council's Website, which Council staff will see to once it is received.

Questionnaire and Database - A digital database for Committees has not yet been established, the process for the questionnaires can begin. Liaison has been done with the Education Sub Group, who will distribute the completed questionnaires to members. Once completed, they will be sent back to the Committee Admin Assistant to be recorded and distributed. The questionnaire is not compulsory.

Priority Projects - this task is ongoing.

# **WATER SUB GROUP**

See Items 3.2, 3.3 and 3.8

There was discussion in regards to making people more responsible for their water. The idea is to target education programs working alongside enforcement to try and ensure people are sticking to the restrictions.

Kearneys/McFawn project is still in progress.

#### **WASTE SUB GROUP**

See Items 3.4, 3.7 and 3.10

Request for Wayne Davis to notify Committee of proposed dates for a full tour of the Recovery Facilities.

Environmental Leadership in Business Awards - project is ongoing, outline was distributed by Kate Hook at the meeting and is open for comment.

The Tidy Towns Committee is working to implement waste free lunchboxes in local schools. Congratulations was forwarded to Committee Member, Kate Willoughby, for her work with the Waste 2 Art exhibit/competition. There were 73 admissions and the winner will be announced tonight at 5.30pm. (Continued over page...)

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A helpful resource for the Waste Sub Group and Council is Blacktown's Bin App - which sends reminders for Bin days and has information on what can and can't go in each bin.

# **ENERGY SUB GROUP**

See Items 3.5 and 3.9

Nick King and Robert Alford to come together and start collaborating ideas etc. in relation to the Energy Conference with sights set on sometime next year. Information regarding this is yet to go to a Council Meeting, so a report will need to be prepared.

Acting General Manager is to follow up on the sustainability pledges put forward.

# OTHER BUSINESS - Item 3.6

#### RECOMMENDATION

# Cr S Nugent/Cr J McRae

- That the Environmental Sustainable Community Committee deal with the Action Updates and other reports in conjunction with one another at the Meeting of 14 June 2019.
- 2 That the Acting General Manager follow up on the Biodiversity Budget Bid progress
- That the members of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee who are able attend the biodiversity data presentation on Friday 21 June at 8.00am (invitation to be circulated to members)
- That the aforementioned information relating to the updates from the Committee Sub-Groups be acknowledged.

# 3.3 WATER REPORT UPDATE - CYRIL SMITH

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1223

A report was prepared and presented to the Committee by Cyril Smith.

A question was raised regarding Council implementing mandatory installation of water tanks, however there are already things put in place by the state that dictate Council's ability to do this, those being the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) and BASIX.

# RECOMMENDATION

# Mr C Smith/Cr S Nugent

- That the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee request a memo from the Acting Director Development Services containing information on the State Environmental Planning Policy and BASIX in relation to water management.
- That the Committee also request a report or update on the use of permeable surfaces in Council works or other developments in the City of Orange.

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<sup>\*\*</sup>Cr J McRae, Acting Director Development Services and Ms Kate Willoughby arrived with the time being 8.06am\*\*

<sup>\*\*</sup>Cr Previtera arrived with the time being 8.13am\*\*

# 3.2 WATER RESTRICTIONS - WAYNE BEATTY

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1222

The Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager presented an update at the meeting.

The Stormwater Harvesting Scheme and other water management schemes are being investigated as part of the Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Strategy review, which is currently ongoing.

The current restrictions are Level 4 and the current combined water storage is at approximately 35.3%. At the current water use levels - 150L/person per day - we lose about 0.3% of the stored water per week which indicates we could be at Level 5 restrictions this month as the threshold to increase restrictions is 35%.

There is a Rescission Motion going to Council for the 25 June Meeting, regarding dropping the capacity requirement from 35% down to 30%, which is the same as Cabonne and the Central Tablelands. Currently, the average water use (see above) is already under the Level 5 goal of 160L/ person per day. The majority stand point from members of the committee is that the threshold is maintained at 35% and instead we try to encourage other Council's to raise theirs rather than dropping our own.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr W Beatty/Cr S Nugent

That the update presented to the Committee by the Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager be acknowledged

#### 3.8 SPRING CREEK RESERVOIR DECISION

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1185

The decision was made at the last Council meeting to open Spring Creek Dam for more recreational uses such as non-powered water craft, fishing and walking. There is notice of a rescission motion going to Council to overturn this decision. The decision for Suma Park was for it to remain unavailable to the public.

If the decision stays (i.e. the rescission motion is lost) then it could take a while for it to be implemented. It took five (5) years for Kinross to start rowing at the site after getting approval. The process for implementation would include updating the plan of management and possibly a DA. This would all be open to the public for comment. There are also things to consider such as operational costs, which were outlined in the report.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr D Waddell/Cr S Nugent

That the update and attachment report be acknowledged

# 3.4 PLASTIC FREE JULY PLANNING BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1182

Praise was given to last year's program, and a request for the committee to repeat it and make it better.

Looking at a pop-up "shop" to educate people about waste free alternative. Also further education on "bioplastics" and how they integrate into our current waste management, e.g. Orange not currently composting the bioplastic bags, but Wagga Wagga does etc.

This may be able to go up in the Council foyer, but other locations are going to be explored based on the recommendation.

A meeting has been organised for next week to finalise the planning stage for committee members who can make it.

#### RECOMMENDATION

# Mr N King/Mr D Waddell

- That the Committee request Council staff to investigate locations at North Orange Shopping Centre and the Summer Centre as spots for a Waste Free Alternatives Popup
- 2 That the Manager Waste Services and Technical Support update the Committee in respect to bio-plastics
- That Committee members who are able meet in Committee Room 3, On Thursday 20 June 2019 at 4.30pm to discuss and finalise planning for Plastic Free July

# 3.7 WOODSMOKE AND PARTICLE POLLUTION INITIATIVES BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1184

Discussion raised the idea of Council providing incentives to upgrade or replace current wood heaters in people's homes in Orange.

There was Grant Funding available a few years ago, however this was only taken up by one household and it is unclear if they went through with it.

It would be easier and more efficient to change the focus to educating the public in regards to their heating at home, and how to use them more efficiently, with particular focus on wood heaters.

The Acting Director Development Services informed the Committee that Council's Trainee Environmental Health Officer (EHO), Greg Perry, is currently doing research on particle pollution as part of his studies. Data was handed out at the meeting.

# RECOMMENDATION

# Mr N King/Mr M Hodges

That the Acting Director Development Services requests Council's Trainee Environmental Health Officer (EHO), Greg Perry, to present an update on his research on particle pollution to the committee at the next meeting.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Kate Willoughby left the meeting with the time being 9.19am\*\*

# 3.10 EOH POLLUTANTS MONITORING IN ORANGE - ROBERT ALFORD

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1224

#### RECOMMENDATION

# Mr R Alford/Mr D Waddell

That the website and link which distributes the information regarding particle pollution be more widely advertised/promoted by Council so that the community has better access and knowledge.

#### 3.5 SOUTHERN LIGHTS PROJECT UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1219

Council report attached to agenda.

Meetings were held with Essential Energy last week in regards to this project, which could be implemented as soon as this financial year. Council is waiting on funding for the project, which could save over \$500,000 in operating costs.

Each LED light will include a smart controller. These range from basic to very advanced. At a basic level the light intensity and sensors can be controlled with these and at the advanced levels they can be used by the RFS to monitor air quality and the RMS as traffic monitoring devices.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Mr D Waddell/Cr M Previtera

That the report and update information in the Southern Lights Project be acknowledged.

#### 3.9 ELECTRICITY PROCUREMENT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1220

Council report summary attached to agenda. Contracts for Electricity Procurement for Council sites are currently with CENTROC.

The Consultant has advised that there is currently a good price on renewables, and Council is aiming for 20% renewables at a minimum. This was resolved at the Council meeting of June 2019.

# RECOMMENDATION

Mr D Waddell/Cr S Nugent

That the update report on Electricity Procurement be acknowledged.

# 3.6 CPP UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1183

Contacts from Parramatta and Wagga Wagga are established to use as information sources for Orange City Council's CPP.

# RECOMMENDATION

Mr D Waddell/Cr S Nugent

That the Acting General Manager send out the public forum link to the Committee Members and that the information presented be acknowledged.

# THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.45AM

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<sup>\*\*</sup>Peter West left the meeting with the time being 9.30am\*\*

9 AUGUST 2019

# 3 PRESENTATIONS

# 3.1 SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEEK - JOHN MILLS (ROTARY)

Verbal Report

# 3.2 UPDATE REPORTS - ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

Acting General Manager, David Waddell will provide verbal reports on the following:

- 1 Energy Update
- 2 Southern Lights Project
- 3 E4 Lands Tour
- 4 Tree Bonds

# 4 BIODIVERSITY

# 4.1 BIODIVERSITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

Verbal Report

# 4.2 BIODIVERSITY SUB-GROUP UPDATE - BY PETER WEST

On Friday 21 June 2019 Emily Cotterill from Envirofact presented to the Committee in relation to Biodiversity in Orange.

The Committee now has the opportunity to debrief and discuss next steps.

# 5 ENERGY

# 5.1 ENERGY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

Verbal Report

# 5.2 STRATEGIES FOR LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES WEBINAR - BY CR STEPHEN NUGENT

The NSW Government held a Webinar for Councils in NSW on Strategies for Low Carbon Communities.

The webinar was held on Wednesday 31 July 2019 between 10 and 11am. A verbal report will be provided to the Committee by Cr Nugent.

9 AUGUST 2019

3.11 Transitioning to a Water Sensitive City - By Cyril Smith

# 6 WASTE

# 6.1 WASTE UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

Verbal Report

# 6.2 PLASTIC FREE JULY EVENT DEBRIEF - BY KATE HOOK

Verbal Report

#### 6.3 BIOPLASTIC POLICY - BY KATE WILLOUGHBY

Council's current Policy on Bioplastics.

- 1 What can be disposed of or recycled
- 2 Are Bioplastics allowed into the green bin under current policy?
- 3 If not, is there a plan to allow them in the future? Specifically bioplastic bags.

Wagga Wagga Council good starting point for research and data collection, particularly regarding contamination levels, as they currently allow bioplastic bags.

# 7 WATER

# 7.1 WATER UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

Verbal Report

# 7.2 TRANSITIONING TO A WATER SENSITIVE CITY - BY CYRIL SMITH

Council staff are requested to provide a progress update on the status of the report regarding Orange Transitioning to a Water Sensitive City.

Attached is an article, published by Forbes on June 10, 2019, by Natalia Parletta on Water Sensitive Cities, for the Committees information.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Water Sensitive Cities are Leading the Way in Urban Water Management - Natalie Parletta, D19/46509

9 AUGUST 2019

Attachment 1 Water Sensitive Cities are Leading the Way in Urban Water Management - Natalie Parletta

Water Sensitive Cities Are Leading The Way In Urban Water Management

Page 1 of 4

1,444 views | Jun 10, 2019, 08:30am

# Water Sensitive Cities Are Leading The Way In Urban Water Management



Natalie Parletta Contributor © Science Sustainable solutions and innovation.



Water sensitive cities use nature-based solutions to improve water management, biodiversity and wellbeing. WITH PERMISSION FROM TONYWONG WATER SENSITIVE CITIES CRC

As the planet faces escalating extremes of weather and temperatures, effective urban water management is more critical than ever to manage droughts and flooding and related problems such as poor health and unstable infrastructure.

The multifaceted water sensitive cities model addresses these challenges by offering a comprehensive template for urban areas to improve water purity and management, population health and biodiversity.

"Water is integral to almost every feature of the urban landscape," says Professor Tony Wong, CEO of the Australian-based Water Sensitive Cities CRC and winner of last year's biennial Global Water Award from the International Water Association for the innovation.

In the model, nature-based solutions are integrated into the urban landscape to create water supply catchments, improve drought resilience, increase ecological health of the built environment and enhance the micro-climate. Complementary infrastructure enables safe drainage and flood mitigation, captures and harvests stormwater and recycles wastewater.

9 AUGUST 2019

Attachment 1 Water Sensitive Cities are Leading the Way in Urban Water Management - Natalie Parletta

Water Sensitive Cities Are Leading The Way In Urban Water Management

Page 2 of 4

Completing this holistic approach, natural, aesthetic surrounds provide heat relief and green spaces for recreational pursuits and improved wellbeing while reducing carbon dioxide levels.

Economic benefits include increased land and housing value, tourism, confidence in building infrastructure and improved productivity.

To achieve this, Wong emphasizes the importance of collaboration. Multiple players work together to create applied solutions, contributing skills from disciplines including engineering, architecture, urban planning, water science, urban climatology, ecology and social sciences, integrated into urban infrastructure, public health and different tiers of government.

The model encourages public involvement in decision making, inspiring people's desire to make wise water choices and connecting communities and cultures.

"These cities provide healthy natural environments that support social, ecological and economic benefits," says Wong. They also address — directly or indirectly — about half of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, underscoring "water's role as an enabler of more productive, liveable, sustainable and resilient cities".

Several regions have adopted the water sensitive cities principles, including areas of Australia and developing countries such as China, India and Singapore. The United States' Low Impact Development principles are based on a similar approach.

Kunshan ("sponge city") could be seen as the poster child for water sensitive cities. Situated near Shanghai in China and populated by 1.6 million people, the city has wholeheartedly embraced the model with more than 30 projects to improve urban water management.

One is the creation of an ecological wetland in Forest Park in the north-west of the city. Because Kunshan is in a polder — low-lying area surrounded by dikes — it is susceptible to flooding and poor water quality. The wetlands are constructed to recirculate and improve water quality and provide outlets for flood waters. Forest plantations are redesigned to support local wildlife, habitats and biodiversity.



# **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

9 AUGUST 2019

Attachment 1 Water Sensitive Cities are Leading the Way in Urban Water Management - Natalie Parletta

Water Sensitive Cities Are Leading The Way In Urban Water Management

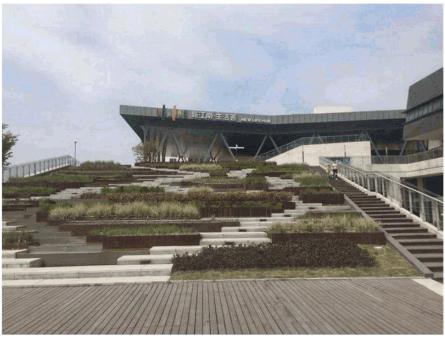
Page 3 of 4



Woody debris enhances the fish breeding habitat in the Forest Park ecological wetland. WITH PERMISSION FROM TONY WONG, WATER SENSITIVE CITIES COC.

In addition to purifying water, harvesting stormwater and improving flood resilience, the project has enhanced ecotourism, created "green lungs" and a cooling effect for the city, and provided a habitat for more than 60 species of wild animals, including otters and zibets and 10,000 migratory birds that visit the park.

Other successfully completed projects include the city's water sensitive steps, a feature that uses native plants and grasses to catch and filter rain and stormwater, and wetlands integrated into a commercial hub to enhance stormwater quality and protect local canals.



Water sensitive steps in Kunshan, China WITH PERMISSION FROM TONY WONG, WATER SENSITIVE CITIES CRO

An ambitious new project will create an innovation park spanning 10 hectares to showcase the city's water sensitive infrastructure and technologies.

9 AUGUST 2019

Attachment 1 Water Sensitive Cities are Leading the Way in Urban Water Management - Natalie Parletta

Water Sensitive Cities Are Leading The Way In Urban Water Management

Page 4 of 4

As the world faces unsustainable population growth and climate change, current infrastructure will need a significant overhaul. These global challenges urgently necessitate investment in better, more flexible and adaptive solutions, with businesses, government and people working together.

"Cities are hybrid social-technical environments," says Wong, "which are themselves serviced by hybrid systems."

By combining existing infrastructure with flexible, decentralized innovations and merging conventional engineering with nature-based solutions, he adds that infrastructure can be integrated with urban systems for energy, waste, transport, housing and food.

"The results are fit-for-purpose urban services, and cool green places that also provide a host of broader liveability, ecological and community health benefits."

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I am a freelance science writer based in Adelaide, Australia. After more than 10 years of doing my own research post PhD, I now get to talk to other scientists and write... Read More

9 AUGUST 2019

# 7.3 WATER SAVING MEASURES - BY CYRIL SMITH

Verbal Report

# 7.4 WATER ISSUES - MACQUARIE PIPELINE AND SUMMER HILL CREEK - BY NICK KING

Verbal Report

# 7.5 POPULATION GROWTH AND WATER SUPPLY - BY NICK KING

Verbal Report

# **8 OTHER BUSINESS**

# 8.1 COMMUNITY EDUCATION WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Verbal Report

# 8.2 GOSLING CREEK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT REVIEW - BY NICK KING

Verbal Report

# 8.3 IMPACT OF CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS IN ORANGE - BY ROBERT ALFORD

Over a period, we have seen across the world and in our own community weather variations that have not been seen in our lifetime.

The weather plays a major part in the community and the operation of the service provided by Orange City Council.

Some of concerns for Orange and the region are listed below:

- 1 The well-being of the community.
  - a) Weather and people's health.
  - b) The future of people's employment and the community.
  - c) The medical services and support of the community.
  - d) The social break down of the community.
- 2 The additional cost to the community and the council.
  - a) The increase in energy to cover the weather extremes.
  - b) The impact of weather on the roads and other infrastructure.
  - c) Water Supply for the community in Orange Council area and the farming areas around Orange,
- 3 The environment in the Orange area and the region.
  - a) The fauna and flora in the Orange Local Government area and the region
  - b) The higher risk of bush fires in the region.

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3.19 Action Items Update

# 8.3 Impact of Changing Weather Conditions in Orange - by Robert Alford (cont)

- 4 Education re weather and the future for hotter and dryer conditions and the extremes of weather.
  - a) Weather emergencies and support.
  - b) Better information on weather for the Orange City area.
  - c) Early warning to the community of weather conditions and sustainability.

It is recommended that the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee set up a working group to undertake the following:

- 1 Research the weather changes that have occurred in the Orange area and the region over the last 50 years.
- 2 Prepare an action plan for Orange to meet the projected weather changes that have been predicted by the CSIRO and weather services
- 3 Determine what is being planned by the NSW and Federal Government in terms of addressing the impacts of the changing climate
- 4 Investigate what grants/funding can be sourced to support the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee in undertaking the above.

# 8.4 CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION - BY NICK KING

Verbal Report

# 8.5 ACTION ITEMS UPDATE

Update on current outstanding Action Items from the Committee

# **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Action Table, D19/34888

9 AUGUST 2019

Attachment 1 Action Table

**ACTION ITEMS - UPDATE** 

KEY: COMPLETE ONGOING DUE OVERDUE

Sub Gr.	Meeting Date	Action Item	Responsible Officer / Group	Comment	Progress
	12/04/19	Extended tour of Ophir & Euchareena Rd Facilities	Council Staff	Spring 2019 for a full tour - Dates to be determined	
	12/04/19	Sustainability Rewards Scheme for Businesses	Kate Hook	Outline distributed at the 14 June meeting - now open for comment	
	12/04/19	Zero-Emissions Vehicle sub- committee	Kate Hook	Email to be sent to interested Committee Members	
	12/04/19	Stormwater Harvesting Scheme investigation	Council Staff	Comment - An Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Strategy is a long term project taking into account all potential future water sources. Stormwater Harvesting will be considered as an option during the process of developing an IWCM	
	12/04/19	Mandatory Water Tanks Implementation	Council Staff	Will be considered as part of developing a IWCM (see above)	
	12/04/19	Smart Water-Meters for Residential Sectors in Orange	Council Staff	Project Currently in the investigation stage and will be delivered according to priority and associated budget.	
	12/04/19	Environmental Factor mapping report	Biodiversity Sub-Group	Presentation 8.00am Friday 21 June 2019 in Committee Room 3	
	12/04/19	Background Questionnaire for Committee Members	Education Sub-Group	Questionnaire to be sent around - answered questionnaires to be sent back to committee admin	

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9 AUGUST 2019

Attachment 1 Action Table

Sub	Meeting Date	Action Item	Responsible Officer / Group	Comment	Progress
Gr.					
	12/04/19	Creation of a Committee Database	Council Staff	Ongoing investigation	
	12/04/19	Project Update Report for 2018/19	ESCC Committee Sub-Groups	Sub-Groups to organise to meet with one another	
	12/04/19	Electronic Message Boards	Council Staff	Messages to be sent to Acting General Manager	
	14/6/19	Biodiversity Budget Bid Follow-up	Council Staff	Acting GM to check	
	14/6/19	SEPP and BASIX information memo	Council Staff	Acting Director to send memo out to Committee Members	
	14/06/19	Permeable Surfaces Report	Council Staff		
	14/06/19	Plastic Free July	ESCC Committee	Meeting organised for Thursday 20 June 2019	
				Update Report going to meeting 9 August 2019	
	14/06/19	Bio-Plastics Update	Council Staff	Update Report going to meeting 9 August 2019	
	14/06/19	Pop-Up shop location	Council Staff	Update Report going to meeting 9 August 2019	
	14/06/19	Pollutants Report	Council Staff	EHO Officer, Greg Perry, to present a report to the	
				committee	
	14/06/19	EOH Pollutants Monitoring	Council Staff	To advertise the information available - put the link up on Councils website	

# 2.3 MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - 18 OCTOBER 2019

RECORD NUMBER: 2020/97

AUTHOR: David Waddell, Chief Executive Officer

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Environmental Sustainability Community Committee met on 18 October 2019 and the recommendations from that meeting are presented to the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee for adoption.

# LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "7.1 Preserve - Engage with the community to develop plans for growth and development that value the local environment".

# **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

# POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

# RECOMMENDATION

- That Council acknowledge the reports presented to the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at its meeting held on 18 October 2019.
- 2 That Council determine recommendations 3.3 and 3.4 from the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting of 18 October 2019 being:

# **Item 3.3 Particle Pollution**

That Council's Chief Executive Officer follow up regarding placing a link for the Air Quality Monitoring data on Council's Website

The Council's Trainee Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer contact Public Health in regards to Orange v Bathurst particle pollution levels.

# **Item 3.4 Water Matters**

# That:

- 1 The verbal report presented by Council's Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager be acknowledged.
- 2 The Committee request Water Update Signs, like those in Dubbo, are put in place in Orange to keep the community informed.
- That the remainder of the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at its meeting held on 18 October 2019 be adopted.

# **FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Consideration has been given to the recommendation's impact on Council's service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 18 October 2019
- 2 ESCC 18 October 2019 Agenda, D20/3406 U.

# ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

HELD IN COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE
ON 18 OCTOBER 2019

**COMMENCING AT 8.01AM** 

# 1 INTRODUCTION

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Cr J McRae, Cr M Previtera (8.14am), Ms Shahreen Alford, Mrs Neina Campbell, Miss Anwen Carney, Mr Ronald Finch, Mr Gavin Hillier, Mr Andrew Kennedy, Ms Melanie McDonell, Mrs Anne Salter, Mr Cyril Smith, , Ms Kate Willoughby, Mr John Mills (Guest Presenter - Rotary), Chief Executive Officer, Acting Director Development Services, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support, Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager, Senior Planner, Health and Building Surveyor, Trainee Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer

# 1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

# **RECOMMENDATION**

# Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the apologies be accepted from Mr Robert Alford, Mr Daniel Fock, Mrs Kate Hook, Mr Nick King, Dr David Mallard, Mr Peter West and Mr Ken Freedman for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting on 18 October 2019.

# 1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

1.3 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

Nil

# **2 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

# RECOMMENDATION

# K Willoughby/Ms S Alford

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 9 August 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 9 August 2019.

# **3 COUNCIL UPDATES**

# 3.1 CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIP AND ENERGY MATTERS

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/2167

Energy noted as a critical issue for Council, with no Key contact point/group, however the report noted the creation of a "Sustainability Officer" role within Council.

Recruitment of the position has begun and it should be advertised next week.

Committee noted that main areas for focus should be:

- The chiller in the Civic Centre
- Lighting
- Energy Procurement.

# RECOMMENDATION

Ms M McDonell/Mr A Kennedy

That the report by Council's Chief Executive Officer and Committee discussion be noted.

#### 3.2 WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES TOUR

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1664

The Private Committee Tour was facilitated by Kylie Tomlinson with four members of the Committee on Friday 27 September 2019. The members who attended said the Tour was very informative and allowed them to come away knowing more, and being able to be an advocate for the Resource Recovery Centres run by Council.

There was also a Public Tour, facilitated again by Kylie Tomlinson, on Thursday 10 October 2019 at 9.15am. 18 People responded to the Event and 13 showed up on the day. They were shown the entire process of the waste recovery from receiving the materials at the centre, to the end product.

Two notable processes are the Red Waste materials and Green Waste materials.

Red waste is collected, sorted and bailed. Bailed waste is stacked in a pyramid form and covered in dart. Items that need to go to landfill but are too large for bailing are put in amongst the bail pile. Approximately 50% of the material that comes to the centres in the Red Bins is "resource loss" materials, i.e. materials that should have been put in the Yellow or Green bins instead. This is a similar statistic to what most Councils would report. Council has previously had a report regarding reducing the frequency of Red Bin collection to fortnightly, rather than weekly. Originally, 60% of the Community were accepting of this proposal, however at the time it wasn't resolved. The Manager Waste Services and Technical Support will present a report on Waste Diversion to the Council in 2022/23, at the end of the 5 year period that was proposed when the change was first recommended, which will assess whether Council is meeting State standards and reducing the collection frequency if not.

Green Waste is collected, processed and tested before being sold in bulk or locally by the

<sup>\*\*</sup>Councillor Previtera arrived with the time being 8.14am\*\*

Recovery Centre and JR Richards. The processing involves the collected waste being shredded and pasteurised, being heated to 55°C to kill any insects or germs etc. Moisture and air is then added and the "compost" spends about 3 months in the sun, where it is churned intermittently. Once it has broken down, the compost is sent to a facility to test against the Australian Standards and can be sold if it meets these. Buyers include vineyards and orchards as well as individuals.

Bioplastics are another area of concern. They require being heated to 50°C to break down, so they are hard for people to utilise in their own backyard compost piles. In terms of Council's process there are a few issues integrating bioplastics into the system. Many businesses had keyed onto the idea of bioplastics and are marketing regular plastic as such. The actual bioplastic products are hard to distinguish from regular plastic to be sorted effectively and avoid contaminating the compost. Bioplastics also take a lot longer to fully breakdown, therefore increasing "visible contaminates" in the compost for longer. This means that the time in the sun composting etc. would need to be longer to allow for these products to decompose.

A suggestion was made to try and integrate separate waste "streams" into the current collection system, similar to Sydney Councils, i.e. paper and cardboard stream, other plastics stream, bioplastics stream etc. At the moment, cost is a factor in assessing this proposal. The current contract for Waste Recovery was established in 2012 and will be up for renewal in 2022/23.

# **RECOMMENDATION**

# Mr A Kennedy/Ms M McDonell

That

- The efforts of the Staff involved in the Private Tour of the Facility, particularly Council's Research and Projects Officer, Kylie Tomlinson, for running the day, be acknowledged by the Committee
- 2 The verbal report by Council's Manager Waste Services and Technical Support be acknowledged

# **ACTION ITEM**

That the Manager Waste Services and Technical Support extend the acknowledgements from the Committee to Kylie Tomlinson on their behalf.

# 3.3 PARTICLE POLLUTION - BY GREG PERRY

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1669

The data provided to the Committee is in its early stages, to gather a sufficient baseline, study would need to be done and the data recorded over a few years. The study is predominantly to show the effects wood smoke has on particle pollution in Orange. It also tracked bushfires and hazard reduction burning.

Notably, winter as a season generally has a higher rate of combustible particles, such as but not limited to particles from wood smoke etc. The data collected for winter 2019 shows that despite it being a mild winter, the number of combustible particles was still at a high level when compared to previous years with colder winters. Fine particulates, those of PM2.5, levels rose as well over the timeframe. These are the particulates that cause respiratory issues as they are small enough to inhale into the lungs.

The policy implications involved in studying particle pollution specifically relating to wood fires could see and enforced ban, however that is not an outcome sought by the Council. A suggestion was to try and better educate the users of woodfires in regards to what they are burning, getting better quality, dry wood, keeping the fireplace clean etc.

The OEH Air Quality Monitoring station in Orange is set up at Jaegar Reserve on Hill Street. The data has been requested to be linked on Council's website for residents of Orange to access. The Automatic Weather Stations are funded by the Bureau of Meteorology and Orange's is out at the Airport. The data from this is available online. The ESCC Members were advised that, should they wish to, they can go and have a look at the station at Jaegar Reserve.

Council's Trainee Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer, Greg Perry, will continue doing his research for the next 12-18 month and an official report will be given to the Acting Director Development Services soon. He will be speaking to the Public Health regarding Orange's levels being much higher to Bathurst's over the same period.

# **RECOMMENDATION**

Cr J McRae/Ms S Alford

That the report presented by Council's Trainee Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer and the Committee discussion be acknowledged.

# **ACTION ITEMS**

That Council's Chief Executive Officer follow up regarding placing a link for the Air Quality Monitoring data on Council's Website

The Council's Trainee Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer contact Public Health in regards to Orange v Bathurst particle pollution levels.

#### 3.4 WATER MATTERS

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1666

Council has established an operational team and comprehensive management strategy to focus on the current water situation. The team is comprised of Council staff from various areas, such as Tech Services, City Presentation and the Communications Team, and will assist with community engagement for both residential and business sectors in town in regards to reducing their water usage, particularly coming into the warmer months.

Council has done presentations on water usage internally, to inform all staff, and externally to organisations such as ECCO and at events like Sustainable Living Week. Community engagement efforts have also been made via our website. The biggest gains in terms of water saving measures etc. are to be had in the Residential Sector. The current usage is 130-140L/person per day, the aim over summer is to keep this down, i.e. reduce water use.

In terms of new Developments in town, conditions are issued on the consent to ensure build sites are adhering to the water restrictions. Swimming pools are still being approved however they cannot be filled or topped up from the town water supply.

In terms of compliance, the current process is as follows:

- 1. A complaint is made and an internal investigation conducted
- 2. A letter is sent to the complainant acknowledging the issue and an initial warning letter is sent to Infringer
- 3. If they continue to infringe, the Rangers are sent for a face to face meeting/verbal warning
- 4. If the behaviour continues after the Rangers warning, a fine of \$2200 is issued.

An Enforcement/Compliance Officer position has also been established and should be filled in the next 12 months.

All effluent water currently goes Cadia. The purple taps (dual water) is treated potable water. A fact sheet is available on Council's website regarding the Dual Water system.

Moving forward, it is advised that is people witness someone doing the wrong thing regarding water restrictions that they report it to Council for action to be taken. A request has been made for more regular updates on the current water situation be put more prominently on the website. Also that town signs (like those in Dubbo) regarding water, are implemented in Orange.

# RECOMMENDATION

Ms S Alford/Mrs A Salter

That

- 1 The verbal report presented by Council's Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager be acknowledged.
- The Committee request Water Update Signs, like those in Dubbo, are put in place in Orange to keep the community informed.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

That the Dual Water Fact Sheet be distributed to Committee Members

#### 5.1 SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEEK

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1667

The Committee moved to deal with Item 5.1 earlier in the meeting, as the Guest Speaker, Mr John Mills, had prior commitments to attend.

Sustainable Living Week is scheduled to run from 27 October 2019 to 16 November 2019. In that time frame, a variety of events will take place such as a Wetlands Walk, School Cooking Competition, Reducing Plastic Waste Workshop at the E.L.F on 31 October 2019, Waratahs Revegetation etc. The big event is the Sustainable Living Expo. A copy of the program for the Expo was presented to Committee members, and is also available on the Rotary Facebook Page, as is their Sustainable Living Week Brochure.

This event has been established in partnership with Orange City Council. The hope is for it to become an annual or bi-annual event, with Council's support. It has been requested that Committee members take the time to check the Social Media related to this event and to share and advocate.

# RECOMMENDATION

K Willoughby/Mr C Smith

That the report presented by Mr John Mills be acknowledged.

- \*\*The Acting Director Development Services left with the time being 9.00am\*\*
- \*\*The Health and Building Surveyor left with the time being 9.04am\*\*
- \*\*The Trainee Aboriginal Environmental Health Officer left with the time being 9.09am\*\*
- \*\*Mr John Mills left with the time being 9.13am\*\*

# 4 PRIORITY PROJECTS

# 4.1 COMBINED ESCC PROJECTS REPORT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1665

The Chair informed the Committee that in terms of the Priority Project Groups, these were formed in order to have more detailed discussions within themselves at intervals between the meetings and then report back to ESCC.

A request was put forward to assist in obtaining an OCC Mentor for each sub-committee as a point of call within Council. It was also requested that each sub-committee organise to meet before the next meeting and prepare a report on their current status to present at the next ESCC Meeting.

# RECOMMENDATION

Mr A Kennedy/K Willoughby

That

- The Committee reaffirms commitment to the priority project model and determines project areas/groups for 2019/20
- 2 The Committee clarifies role of priority projects compared to other items in formulating meeting agendas.

3 That the report presented by the Education Project Group be acknowledged.

# **MOTION**

Cr S Nugent/Mr C Smith

That the Water Report, as circulated by Committee Member Mr Cyril Smith in 17 October 2019, be noted.

# 5 EVENTS

- \*\*Ms Shahreen Alford left the meeting with the time being 9.25am\*\*
- \*\*The Senior Planner left the meeting with the time being 9.30am\*\*
- \*\*The Acting Director Development Services returned to the meeting at 9.33am\*\*
- \*\*Miss Anwen Carney left the meeting with the time being 9.34am\*\*

# 5.2 CLIMATE BEHIND THE HEADLINES PUBLIC TALK SERIES

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1668

The Futuring Orange Facebook page is the best starting point for people wanting to be involved in the series. There has been good turn outs so far.

LGNSW passed a motion to declare a Climate Emergency on Tuesday 15 October 2019

# **RECOMMENDATION**

That the verbal report presented by Councillor Stephen Nugent be acknowledged.

# THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.44AM



# **AGENDA**

# **18 OCTOBER 2019**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCILLORS WORKROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE on Friday, 18 October 2019 commencing at 8.00AM.

David Waddell

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** 

For apologies please contact Jessica McLean on 6393 8262.

**18 OCTOBER 2019** 

# **AGENDA**

# **EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

In the event of an emergency, the building may be evacuated. You will be required to vacate the building. The Committee Clerk will now identify the emergency muster point.

Under no circumstances is anyone permitted to re-enter the building until the all clear has been given and the area deemed safe by authorised personnel.

In the event of an evacuation, a member of Council staff will assist any member of the public with a disability to vacate the building.

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**18 OCTOBER 2019** 

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

# **MEMBERS**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), Cr J McRae, Cr M Previtera, Ms Shahreen Alford, Mr Robert Alford, Mrs Melissa Brown, Mrs Neina Campbell, Miss Anwen Carney, Mr Ronald Finch, Mr Daniel Fock, Mr Gavin Hillier, Mrs Kate Hook, Mr Andrew Kennedy, Mr Nick King, Dr David Mallard, Ms Melanie McDonell, Mrs Anne Salter, Mr Cyril Smith, Mr Peter West, Ms Kate Willoughby, Mr Ken Freedman, Director Development Services, Manager Building and Environment, Water Treatment Manager, Manager City Presentation, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support, Water and Sewerage Strategic Manager, Museum and Heritage Coordinator, Parks Supervisor, Project and Research Officer, Water Management Officer

#### 1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

# 1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons given for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

# RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee at this meeting.

**18 OCTOBER 2019** 

# 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

# RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 9 August 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate records of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 9 August 2019.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 9 August 2019

# ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 3, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE
ON 9 AUGUST 2019

COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

# 1 INTRODUCTION

# **ATTENDANCE**

Cr S Nugent (Chairperson), , Ms Shahreen Alford, Mr Robert Alford, Mr Ronald Finch, , Mr Gavin Hillier, Mrs Kate Hook, Mr Andrew Kennedy, Mr Nick King, , Mr Cyril Smith, , Ms Kate Willoughby, Mr Ken Freedman, Acting General Manager, Manager Waste Services and Technical Support

# 1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Mrs Melissa Brown handed in her resignation for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee due to conflicting commitments. The Committee would like to thank Mel for her contributions during her time as a member.

# RECOMMENDATION

That the apologies be accepted from Cr J McRae, Cr M Previtera, Mrs Neina Campbell, Miss Anwen Carney, Mr Daniel Fock, Dr David Mallard, Ms Melanie McDonell, Mrs Anne Salter and Mr Peter West for the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting on 9 August 2019.

# 1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

1.3 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

# 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee held on 14 June 2019 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Environmental Sustainability Community Committee meeting held on 14 June 2019.

# 3 PRESENTATIONS

# 3.1 SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEEK - JOHN MILLS (ROTARY)

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1647

<Type notes here if required

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the report presented to the Committee, by Mr John Mills of Rotary, be acknowledged.

# 3.2 UPDATE REPORTS - ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1646

National Tree day at Lake Canobolas was a huge success with 184 in attendance.

A meeting was held with Matt Kean, the Minister for Energy and Environment, GM of Cabonne Council and the Mayor at Mt Canobolas regarding the bike track. Matt Kean will be the decider on updating the current plan of management, which dictates whether we can or cannot lodge a DA for the site.

Wangarang has been commissioned to clean up the Northern Distributor Road, a project which is currently underway. There is more media planned in regards to this. They will be focusing on the NDR from the highway to Forbes Road.

The replacement of the airconditioner chillers at the Council building is underway.

Council approved the Southern Lights in Orange on Tuesday 6 August. The project will change 8500 bulbs, all the street lights in Orange, to LED. This means the entire light fixture at the top of the pole will be replaced. The new fixtures are fitted with smart controllers which means the lights can be dimmed, brightened and switched on and off remotely. Essential Energy will control these changes, at request of Council. This change saves approximately \$500,000 as well as having huge savings in CO2 and kilowatt-hours. One issue arising is the catenary lighting (overhanging).

Electricity Procurement is still on track, with the minimum 20% renewable being adopted. This figure can be changed at any time, by vote of Council, but the idea is to run it for a year or so to see how it goes. It is likely it will be completed as early as Christmas time this year.

A tour of the Environmental Zone in Clifton Grove is proposed for some time in the future, with the assistance of Peter West. The hope is that more effort can be made to protect areas like these in the LGA.

The NSW Drought Committee met yesterday. There were talks of lowering the pump threshold to use the Macquarie pipeline and lowering or completely stopping the Environmental Flow from Suma Park to Summer Hill Creek.

The first Electric Fleet Vehicle purchased by Council arrived last month.

# RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the verbal report by the Acting General Manger be acknowledged.

# **MATTERS ARISING**

- Council should investigate the heating side of the airconditioning units on the Council building now that the chillers have been replaced to increase efficiency in the cooler months. The Acting General Manager will put Robert Alford in touch with Damian West in regards to this.
- Committee to speak to Essential Energy regarding the street light control wire, the point where they trim trees back, and if this will change due to the Southern Lights Project.

# 4 BIODIVERSITY

# 4.1 BIODIVERSITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1658

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the discussion by the Committee on Biodiversity be acknowledged.

# 4.2 BIODIVERSITY SUB-GROUP UPDATE - BY PETER WEST

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1645

Mr Peter West was an apology for this meeting, however, Ms Shahreen Alford presented his update to the Committee.

Emily from Envirofactor presented on Biodiversity, her presentations were well received. A commitment has been made by Council with Emily to undertake the next steps in the project.

Emily has collated a variety of information from different sources to help create better and more accurate resources for Council, and possibly other organisations, to utilise when it comes to recognising and understanding Biodiversity in the Orange LGA. The information is focused on plant and animal species, as well as habitats in the LGA.

The Committee discussed collecting and collating data on Biodiversity specific to the Mt Canobolas National Park.

Council's Heritage Coordinator, Alison Russell, has put together a register of, items and areas in Orange which have heritage significance. There are calls for the Committee members to offer suggestions as this is updates regularly. The suggestion was that these items/areas are included in Councils plan to manage and protect biodiverse areas.

# RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Ms S Alford

That the verbal report, presented by Shahreen Alford, be acknowledged.

# 5 ENERGY

## 5.1 ENERGY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1660

## RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the verbal report from the Acting General Manager be acknowledged.

#### **MATTER ARISING**

That Council staff follow up on the recommendation from ESCC to reduce Council's Energy use by 20%, which was adopted by Council at the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee Meeting, and report back to the Committee with a progress update.

#### 5.2 STRATEGIES FOR LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES WEBINAR - BY CR STEPHEN NUGENT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1644

The NSW Government held a Webinar on Low Carbon Communities on Wednesday 31 July 2019.

The main goals where outlined, which are to reach net 0 emissions by 2030 and limit global warming to 1.5°C.

There were various case studies presented by other Councils, presenting their goals, projects and financial savings. 2 projects that stuck out where EV Expo and Sunspot.

An EV Expo has already been organised for Orange through Future in Orange. Sunspot is a Council funded project which identifies roofs suitable for solar installation. While this is not a project in Orange, a community owned renewable energy source, a solar farm, has been proposed for Orange.

Cr Nugent will circulate the link of the recording of the Webinar to committee members.

# RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mr D Waddell

That the verbal report by Councillor Nugent be acknowledged and the link be circulated to members

# 7.2 TRANSITIONING TO A WATER SENSITIVE CITY - BY CYRIL SMITH

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1643

A report was distributed and discussion had regarding this item.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the report distributed to Committee Members and the verbal discussion lead by Mr Cyril Smith be acknowledged

<sup>\*\*</sup>Mr Cyril Smith left the meeting with the time being \*\*

# 6 WASTE

#### 6.1 WASTE UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1661

Orange Waste Project- 2013, saw the construction of a new waste recovery centre on Euchareena Road. It also saw the introduction of the green organics bins and collection and the compost facility.

Every 5 years, an Independent Environmental Audit of the facility is conducted. Out of 421 Conditions of Approval, there were only 6 issues, which have since been rectified, landmarking Orange as the benchmark in NSW for establishment of a new landfill. The results have been sent to the Department of Planning.

Also at Euchareena Road, Cell 3 has been completed, adding a further 6 years to the lifespan of the landfill site and solar panels are set to be installed on the site.

Bin and Truck audits have been undertaken by Envirocon, results pending.

The curbside recyclables (yellow bins) collected in Orange are received by Busy Australia. 6 Council's, including Orange, come through Orange's transfer facility.

Orange has a 50/50 arrangement with Busy for the 10c refundable recyclables. The pricing cost of processing recyclables has increased by approx. \$60/tonne which equates to about \$200,000/year.

The Hazardous Waste Annual Collection day is approaching, and will occur at a date to be announced in October.

Netwaste is doing an evaluation with 30 Councils looking at Mattress Recycling. The plan for Orange is the introduction of a cage to collect the mattresses. From there, the materials can be recovered and recycled. The time frame for this is looking like sometime in September.

Victoria has banned all E-Waste from going into landfill. Orange has the facilities for the recovery of electrical waste, however it is not widely advertised. There was a suggestion to include an E-Waste bin at the Expo.

Mrs Kate Willoughby has introduced a school group competition, called Litter Free Lunchboxes, aiming to reduce soft plastic waste in schools, such as chip packets, bottle lids and cling wrap etc. The competition may outreach to preschool/childcare centres with kitchens to have litter/waste free kitchens. Tidy Towns and ESCC are working with other organisations to determine prizes for the best school canteen, individual and childcare kitchen that does the best. The aim is to get the competition running in November for Sustainable Living Week.

A tour of the Euchareena Road facility has been organised for Friday 27 September 2019. Committee members who wish to attend are asked to meet at the Civic Centre carpark at 8.30am, Council vehicles will be used to carpool to the site. The tour will last approximately 3 hours, concluding at 11.30. An invitation will be sent to all members.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mrs K Willoughby

That the verbal report from Council's Manager Waste Services and Technical Support be acknowledged.

## 6.2 PLASTIC FREE JULY EVENT DEBRIEF - BY KATE HOOK

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1649

The event was not as successful as last year, having been swamped by the Climate Emergency.

No pop-up stalls occurred, however as the name has changed to Plastic Free Orange, the suggestion was to have information circulated to the community all year round.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mrs K Hook

That the update presented by Mrs Kate Hook be acknowledged.

### 6.3 BIOPLASTIC POLICY - BY KATE WILLOUGHBY

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1641

#### Report:

The Committee has requested that Council look into a Policy for Bioplastics integrating into the waste recovery processes.

Currently Wagga Wagga allows bioplastic bags in their greenwaste and have 3% contamination.

## Response:

Orange currently does not accept bioplastic bags. The waste recovering process for greenwaste was developed here prior to grant funding being made available, which other Council's like Wagga and Dubbo have had, to establish education programs and distribution of products etc.

The current contamination in Orange's greenwaste compost is under 0.5%. The compost has taken 6 years to get to Australian Standard and it is organically certified. Allowing bioplastics creates room for error, as manufacturers are creating plastics to appear bioplastic and it becomes difficult or impossible to distinguish.

Dubbo has had issues with contamination in their green waste from plastics.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Cr S Nugent/Mrs K Willoughby

That the verbal report from Mrs Kate Willoughby and the response from Council's Manager Waste Services and Technical Support be acknowledged

# **MATTER ARISING**

Global Climate Strike is on Friday 20 September 2019.

# 7 WATER

## 7.1 WATER UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1663

ECCO has made a submission against the Macquarie Pipeline and Summer Hill Creek decisions (See item 3.2). More discussion next meeting (Item 7.4).

Currently the Cadia Mine case regarding the receival of water is in the Courts, however the case is addressing whether they should be paying for it rather than whether they should be getting it at all.

The Committee has requested more information in relation to the above in order to make an informed decision regarding item 7.4.

The Committee has suggested gearing the Climate Emergency talk towards water to try and engage more of the active Council. Currently only 3 are on board with the Climate Emergency, with the other 9 having been unable to attend briefing sessions regarding the matter.

The Committee has requested that contingency plans for the day when we may hit ground zero with water be developed and advertised to the community. This could help in calming fears members have about what will happen if we do run out of water.

A Networking group, facilitated through ESCC by Members Robert Alford and Nick King be created, engaging members of the community to be involved in the discussion in water and climate etc. Robert to send invitations to Council Staff, John Francis and Wayne Beatty. Kate Hook will be the representative from Future in Orange.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the verbal information presented to the committee be acknowledged.

DUE TO THE QUORUM NO LONGER BEING MET THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50AM. THE REMAINING ITEMS HAVE BEEN DEFERRED TO THE NEXT MEETING.

## 7.3 WATER SAVING MEASURES - BY CYRIL SMITH

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1662

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

# 7.4 WATER ISSUES - MACQUARIE PIPELINE AND SUMMER HILL CREEK - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1664

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

## 7.5 POPULATION GROWTH AND WATER SUPPLY - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1666

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

## 8 OTHER BUSINESS

## 8.1 COMMUNITY EDUCATION WORKING GROUP UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1665

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

## 8.2 GOSLING CREEK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT REVIEW - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1667

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

# 8.3 IMPACT OF CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS IN ORANGE - BY ROBERT ALFORD

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1640

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

# 8.4 CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION - BY NICK KING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1668

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

# 8.5 ACTION ITEMS UPDATE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2019/1648

RECOMMENDATION

Deferred to next meeting

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## 3 COUNCIL UPDATES

#### 3.1 CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIP AND ENERGY MATTERS

The ESCC will recall the resolution of 1 May 2018 as follows.

# RESOLVED - 18/001

## Cr S Nugent/Cr M Previtera

- 1 That in accordance with Council's commitment to the Cities Power Partnership (CPP) and in the interests of Council leading by example in responsible energy consumption, Council adopt the following five pledges as a framework for future renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport projects:
  - Power Council operations by renewables, directly (with solar PV or wind), or by purchasing Greenpower (from electricity retailers). Set targets to increase the level of renewable power for Council operations over time.
  - Adopt best practice energy efficiency measures across all Council buildings, and support community facilities to adopt these measures.
  - Public lighting can use a large proportion of a City's energy budget roll out energy efficient lighting (particularly street lighting) across the municipality.
  - Ensure that new developments are designed to maximize public and active transport use, and are designed to support electric vehicle uptake
  - Implement an education and behaviour change program to influence the behaviour
    of Council officers, local residents and businesses within the municipality to drive the
    shift to renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.
- 2 That any Council projects proposed in support of the Cities Power Partnership (CPP) Pledges which require resources not currently budgeted, come before Council for consideration and adoption subject to Council staff analysis and recommendation.

This report updates the ESCC on matters relating to energy.

## **Electric Vehicles**

The only gain in the transport area is OCC's push to accept the NRMA vehicle charger and the procurement of our first electric Kona vehicle. Staff with novated leases are to be told that an electric car is now an option for staff.

## **Chiller in Civic Centre**

The recent installation of new chillers in the Civic Centre will see immediate gains in energy efficiency.

## Pool

As part of the Cities Power Partnership (CPP) staff have contacted the Parramatta Council and established a partnership around their new aquatic centre. Staff will travel to Parramatta once the new Aquatic centre manager is recruited in order to gain knowledge on best practise.

It is notable that the CPP partnership model has been discontinued.

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# Lighting

The Southern Lights project has been signed off with a \$2,500,000 spend and annual savings of \$500,000 to be gained (not to mention the greenhouse savings) – the rollout is expected in the next quarter.

New underawning lights will be installed along Summer Street in the form of Whiteway LEDs.

#### **Electricity Procurement**

Member councils of the Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO) (formerly Centroc) have been procuring electricity collaboratively for over 10 years. In the past this has provided substantial cost savings to members.

The procurement of electricity is complex and challenging for Councils, for example the short timeframes to accept prices offered by retailers is typically 2 business days which is outside the Council meeting timeframes for even an extra-ordinary meeting. Reasons around the short timeframe are that retail offers are based on a fast-moving futures market. If Councils were to seek a longer timeframe for the acceptance of offers, a large risk component is likely to be added to the price by the retailer.

The contracts for small tariff sites (< 100MWh p.a.), large contract sites (> 100MWh p.a.) and street lighting expire on 31 December 2019. Councils are now participating in a new procurement process for the supply of electricity for new contracts to commence on 1 January 2020. Sourced Energy has been engaged to conduct this process on behalf of CNSWJO members.

Councils now have the opportunity to include a renewable energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in the procurement process for the supply of electricity. Council resolved to contribute a minimum of 20% of the load to the renewable energy PPA, where financially advantageous to Council.

Strategically this would align with the Community Strategic Plan and Economic Development Community Committee goals.

The CEO will be signing off the procurement in the week of 14 October 2019.

# **Sustainability Officer**

The CEO has approved recruitment of a fulltime Sustainability Officer. This Officer will have the responsibility of driving energy reduction and renewables along with other Sustainability matters (waste, biodiversity, water). The SO will also take over as ESCC Committee clerk.

# Solar

Staff continue to spec projects to include solar – a notable example is the new Animal Shelter that is now under construction and the Airport Carpark/Terminal which will see solar placed on the weather shelters over the carpark.

A solar/battery project is being developed for the Terminal Roof itself.

More solar under the Aquatic Centre PPA is being investigated.

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# 3.2 WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES TOUR

Verbal Report

## 3.3 PARTICLE POLLUTION - BY GREG PERRY

As a requirement of the Field Project units for the completion of the Bachelor of Natural Science (Environment & Health), undergraduate students are tasked with conducting a research project on an issue of interest for a client organisation. This project was to assess the impact of residential wood smoke emissions on the air quality in Orange.

Ambient air quality data obtained by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage monitoring station, that was installed in Orange early in 2019, was collected and analysed to assess the impact of residential wood heating on Orange's winter air quality.

## **Ambient Air Quality Data**

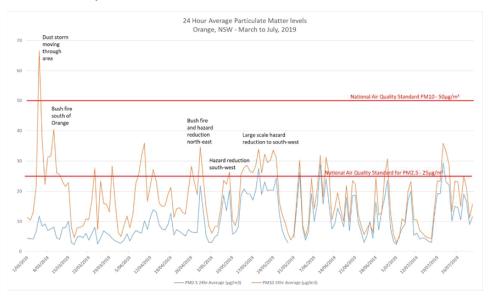


Figure 1: Comparison of PM2.5 and PM10 daily averages in Orange, NSW. March - July 2019.

Large-scale air quality events had an impact on Orange's fine particulate matter concentrations — the key pollutant measured at the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) station in Jaeger Reserve on Hill Street — especially the dust storm in March, and the hazard reduction burning undertaken by the NSW RFS throughout May. Throughout June and July fine particulates (PM2.5) continued to reach elevated levels, despite the absence of any such events.

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Throughout the study period, PM2.5 exceeded the National Standard based on a 24-hour average ( $25\mu g/m^3$ ) three times across June and July, with another two PM2.5 exceedances in August detected after data collection had for the project had ceased. Residential wood smoke is the most likely source of these levels.

On a monthly basis, PM2.5 averages rose gradually over March, April, and May as temperatures fell in the lead up to winter. Both temperature and PM2.5 averages remained fairly stable in June and July.

A review of the OEH monitoring data identified that Orange's fine particle concentrations reached much higher levels more frequently than what was recorded by the OEH station in Bathurst over this same period (Figure 2). The reasons for such a difference are uncertain, but could be related to a number of variables like wind speed and direction, natural geographical features, and the number of wood heaters in the cities.

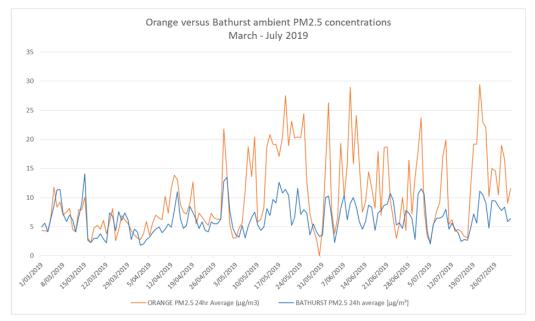


Figure 2: Comparison of PM2.5 concentrations in Orange and Bathurst, NSW. March - July 2019.

While these early figures show how the monitoring station could be utilised in future to inform any air quality policies or actions, the winter of 2019 was mild compared to winters of previous years, and Orange experienced many days of high winds which worked to prevent atmospheric inversion layers from forming and disperse wood smoke pollution.

Long term study of air quality parameters and their relationship to meteorological factors in Orange is needed to better establish seasonal trends in air quality in the area, and what the 'normal' air quality of Orange in winter looks like in relation to the National Air Quality Standards. The Office of Environment and Heritage monitoring station will help Council to achieve this.

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# Air Quality Index (AQI)

The AQI provided on the Office of Environment & Heritage's website is an indicative value calculated for 6 different air quality measures: Ozone, Nitrogen dioxide, Carbon monoxide, Sulfur dioxide, Fine Particulate Matter, and visibility. The AQIs for these measures are calculated by taking the actual reading of each, dividing them by the relevant National standard and then multiplying them by 100.

The 6 AQIs for each site are then compared, and the highest figure among them is used as the site AQI for a given hour.

An AQI of 100 or more means at least 1 of the 6 measures has met, or exceeded the relevant standard at that time.

It is important to remember that the AQI is an indication of air quality only, and that the more serious health effects associated with poor air quality are typically assessed in relation to long term exposure. That said, the AQI alerts may be useful for people that suffer existing respiratory conditions like severe asthma or emphysema.

More information regarding AQIs can be obtained from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage website.

## 3.4 WATER MATTERS

Verbal Report

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#### 4 PRIORITY PROJECTS

## 4.1 COMBINED ESCC PROJECTS REPORT

#### **BACKGROUND**

ESCC held a Priority Projects Workshop in May 2018. The workshop was used to identify project-based action areas that:

- Filled the gaps
  - Identify the gaps "we" can help fill (i.e. the Committee), in areas such as research, advocacy, information, education and data collection.
- Promoted active contribution
  - Focus on what the Committee can contribute. What is Council already working on? Is there a role for the Committee within these projects?
- Are achievable
  - Time critical or time limited projects, either stand alone or the first step in assisting something larger to get off the ground.
- Utilised existing resources
  - Limit the contribution within existing resources accessible by the Committee e.g. time, energy, interest, knowledge etc.
- Had a timeframe of 6-12 months
   Short, medium and longer term projects that are "bite-sized" and achievable within the timeframe.

Five (5) key Project areas were established at the workshop: Education, Energy, Biodiversity, Plastics and Water Cycle.

At their meeting of 12 April 2019, the Committee resolved to prepare a Project Update Report for the 2018/19 period. The Education project group collected a summary of objectives, achievements, unfinished business and recommended course of actions for the 2019/20 period from each group. The information was then collated and summarised for review by the ESCC (see below)

## **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

The following observations were made after the above data was collected:

- Both the Education and Energy project groups have unfinished actions
- The Plastics, Biodiversity and Water project groups are on track
- There is a large variation in objectives/actions between project groups, ranging from Strategic to Specific actions
- Each group would benefit from an OCC Mentor, i.e. a member of Orange City Council with knowledge relating to the project group to guide/help.
- There is ongoing confusion surrounding the PURPOSE of the ESCC, whether it is consultative, collaborative, a forum or a mixture.

The question was also raised to clarify the role of priority project groups and their priority when it comes to updates vs other items, particularly regarding meeting agendas etc.

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# RECOMMENDATION

#### That

- The Committee reaffirms commitment to the priority project model and determines project areas/groups for 2019/20
- 2 That the report presented by the Education Project Group be acknowledged.

# PROJECT REPORTS

# **EDUCATION**

WORKSHOP PRIORITIES	Not available	
OCC MENTOR	Not yet established	
OBJECTIVES 2018/19	Inform, educate, engage and activate community and committee members, as well as Council staff and Councillors	
	Assist Other ESCC projects with the communication projects, areas of interest and finding things through internal and external communication	
	Help make the ESCC a valued "brains trust" to all relevant environmentally sustainable policy and initiatives of the OCC	
	Assist the Chair of ESCC to meet the committee objectives efficiently and inclusively	
	Encourage ESCC committee members on social media to like FB page/s and twitter feeds and comment and share as appropriate to inform, engage and activate the community.	
ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS	Facilitation of the ESCC Priority Projects workshop 2018/19	
	Meet with the OCC Communications Team and assess opportunities to value add their activities (e.g. Operations Plan and upgraded website)	
	Nominate our top 3 "tips and tricks", things we would want our community to know or act on	
	Meet with each project team for an update report and evaluate where the Education group may be able to help	
	Draft progress report for Project Groups for review by the ESCC	
UNFINISHED PROJECTS/ACTIONS	Nominate our top three "tips and tricks" things we would want our community to know, or act on	
	Inform, educate, engage and activate community and committee members as well as Council staff and councillors.	
	Assist other ESCC projects with communicating progress, things of interest, findings through internal and external communications	
	Help make the ESCC a valued "brains trust" to all relevant environmental sustainable policy and initiatives of OCC.	
	Assist the Chair ESCC to meet the committee objectives efficiently and inclusively	

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# **EDUCATION (cont)**

UNFINISHED PROJECTS/ACTIONS (cont)	Encourage ESCC committee members on social media to like FB page(s) and twitter feeds and comment and share as appropriate to inform, engage, educate and activate the community	
RECOMMENDATIONS	DATIONS That the Project group is stopped or rebooted in another form	

# **BIODIVERSITY**

WORKSHOP PRIORITIES	Not available		
OCC MENTOR	Not yet established		
OBJECTIVES 2018/19	Inventory of all relevant biodiversity data for OCC to inform development and management.		
	Update the "red" terrestrial biodiversity map.		
	Involve local community organizations in improving the OCC LEP.		
	Review biodiversity information on OCC website to make more factual and informative.		
	Identify strategic priorities for OCC revegetation.		
ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS	Consultant (The Environmental Factor) was contracted (by OCC) to conduct an initial scoping study to identify gaps in biodiversity-mapping layers. Recommendations were proposed to build biodiversity data for Orange LGA.		
	Community organisations have been contacted to indicate willingness to be involved in gathering existing biodiversity data, i.e. OFNCS.		
UNFINISHED PROJECTS/ACTIONS	Funding required for desktop biodiversity mapping and stakeholder information consolidation		
	Funding required for robust field surveys using State and nationally agreed minimum survey protocols for biodiversity in Orange LGA		
	Biodiversity mapping layers need to be incorporated in OCC development and planning decisions.		
	Promote Register of Significant Landscape features as a tool to preserve non-indigenous vegetation.		
	Prepare mature gum tree protection and management strategy.		
	Showcase examples of sustainable garden design and management.		
	Assist OCC to prepare biodiversity grant applications. Education initiatives		
RECOMMENDATIONS	Seek and secure funding for unfinished elements		
	Continue progressing biodiversity inventory with further assistance from OCC.		
	Commission community groups to pull together their data in agreed format.		

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# **BIODIVERSITY (cont)**

RECOMMENDATIONS (cont)	Biodiversity project team to continue by focusing on 2 key projects	
	Engage more productively with council staff.	
	Advocate the value of trees in urban landscapes.	

# **PLASTICS**

WORKSHOP PRIORITIES	Not available	
OCC MENTOR	Stephen Nugent	
OBJECTIVES 2018/19	Educate the Orange Community about the problem of plastic waste	
	Promote alternatives to avoid everyday plastic consumption	
	Lobby Council to take provide multiple filling stations for reusable water bottles	
	Lobby Council to introduce a ban on selling bottled water in plastic	
	Lobby Council to introduce a ban on single use plastic bags for retailers	
	Provide easy ways for people in Orange to obtain alternatives to plastic items.	
ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS	Establishment of the Facebook Page "Plastic Free July Orange" for Plastic Free July in 2018, which continues as "Plastic Free Orange". Website enables people to share their waste-free alternatives for everyday items.	
	2018 Plastic Free July (PFJ) included the PFJ "box challenge" where participants kept a box and put in it every item of plastic they used during the month of July. Some participants were aiming for zero waste, others were continuing "business as usual" to compare difference.	
	Team member Kate Willoughby achieved great participation in the Netwaste Waste-To-Art competition that focused on plastic baling twine.	
	Media coverage in CWD and Orange City Life of all of the above.	
UNFINISHED PROJECTS/ACTIONS	Pop-up shops for plastic-free alternatives were discussed but no implemented during PFJ 2019 as too much going on with climate related issues. This would be a great regular event for Orange, to promote the huge range of alternatives that exist.	
	Lobbying council as per objectives didn't happen.	
RECOMMENDATIONS	Strategically plan PFJ 2020, including pop up stalls that continue on at Farmer's Markets every month.	
	Create a series of videos to promote how to shop plastic free in Orange – eg. At Butcher, Fruit & Veg, bakery, supermarket etc.	
	Include local student groups in plans.	

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# PLASTICS (cont)

RECOMMENDATIONS (cont)	Draft motions for council on bottles, bas and water bottle filling
	stations.

# WATER

WORKSHOP PRIORITIES	Understand the water cycle inc. groundwater recharge, aquifers, wetlands, surface flows, storm water harvesting, water pollution			
	Encourage awareness/behaviour change/best practice through website, resource development, targeted information for schools, businesses, clubs etc.			
OCC MENTOR	Not yet established			
OBJECTIVES 2018/19	Promote to OCC the adoption of the "Water Sensitive City" model.			
	Inform and educate the Orange Community on their water cycle needs, impacts and options.			
	Review and promote home-based water conservation and stora options.			
ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS	Conduct general community information night on ground wat issues for Orange.			
	Spring Terrace & Spring Hill PS education initiative "Understanding the natural systems within their local wate cycle".			
	Preparation of general landholder information.			
	Commenced work on update of OCC website page for "Orange Water Cycle".			
	Continue interest and input into OCC's review of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Review (2019/20)			
UNFINISHED	Update Orange Water Cycle map and supporting information.			
PROJECTS/ACTIONS	Water website "page".			
	Continue advocacy for the "Water Sensitive City" model			
	Review existing, prepare and promote wider landholder information.			
	Continue public education via for example regular information in "City Life".			
RECOMMENDATIONS	Continue project 2019/20.			
	Hold ESSC workshop to build awareness of "WSC" model benefits etc.			
	Assist OCC staff in preparation of a report on transitioning to a Water Sensitive City 2019/20			

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# **ENERGY**

WORKSHOP PRIORITIES	Not available	
OCC MENTOR	Not yet established	
OBJECTIVES 2018/19	Assist OCC adopt the NSW Govt "energy reduction project" that includes measures such as street lighting program	
	Promote to OCC the development and adoption of an overall "energy policy" that includes,	
	Specified energy reduction target,	
	Best practice energy use/management/practices (aka "City Power Partnership"),	
	Dedicated energy contact/coordination function within OCC,	
	Simple and practical response to the "climate change crisis" relevant to OCC and community etc.	
ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS	Regular briefings on energy issues to ESSC	
UNFINISHED PROJECTS/ACTIONS	As per objectives S	
RECOMMENDATIONS	Step back, ESSC review and start again to address objectives?	

# COMBINED RECOMMENDATIONS - ESCC PROJECTS 2019/20

EDUCATION	Education project ceases or is rebooted in another form.		
ENERGY	Step back, ESSC review and start again to address objectives?		
BIODIVERSITY	Seek and secure funding for unfinished elements		
	Continue progressing biodiversity inventory with further assistance from OCC.		
	Commission community groups to pull together their data in agreed format.		
	Biodiversity project team to continue by focusing on 2 key projects		
	Engage more productively with council staff.		
	Advocate the value of trees in urban landscapes		
PLASTIC	Strategically plan PFJ 2020, including pop up stalls that continue on at Farmer' Markets every month.		
	Create a series of videos to promote how to shop plastic free in Orange — e.g., Butcher, Fruit & Veg, bakery, supermarket etc.		
	Include local student groups in plans.		
	Draft motions for council on bottles, bas and water bottle filling stations.		
WATER	Continue project 2019/20.		
	Hold ESSC workshop to build awareness of "WSC" model benefits etc.		
	Assist OCC staff in preparation of a report on transitioning to a Water Sensitive City 2019/20		

ENV	IRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE	18 OCTOBER 2019	
3.7	Climate Behind the Headlines Public Talk Series		
5	EVENTS		
5.1	SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEEK		
Verb	Verbal Report		
5.2	5.2 CLIMATE BEHIND THE HEADLINES PUBLIC TALK SERIES		
Verk	Verbal Report		