
**MINUTES OF THE RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT BERANGABAH STATION ON
3 MAY 2017 COMMENCING AT 11:14AM**

PRESENT

Deputy Mayor Peter Abbott (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Janine Lea-Barrett (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Chris Lehmann (Cobar Shire Council), Peter Vlatko (Cobar Shire Council), Stephen Taylor (Cobar Shire Council), Maurice Bell (Cobar Shire Council), Adrienne Pierini (Cobar Shire Council), John and Sandra Gally (Mulya Station), George Millear (Tiltagoona), Bob Sinclair (Cobar Shire Council), Andrew Farnsworth (Innesowen), Robert and Anne Vagg (Wing Ding), Paul Whytcross (Kia Ora), Kevin Murphy (Neckarbo) and Anne Marie Murphy (Neckarbo), Leonie Sinclair (Berangabah), Jessica Sinclair (Berangabah), Dave Sinclair (Berangabah), Lindsay Markey (Berangabah), Diane Noble (Karwarn), Stephen Roberts (Ashleigh Downs), Bronwyn McIver (Ashleigh Downs), Ian Maidens (Bonnie Doon), Andrew Paul (Red Tank), Caleb Deadman and Joanna Deadman (Kaleno) and Robyn Goonrey (Cobar Shire Council).

RECOMMENDATION: That the apologies received from Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM (Cobar Shire Council), Justin and Julie McClure (Kallara), Pauline, Barry and Paul Oliver (Kaleno), Julie Payne (Cobar Shire Council).

Janine Lea-Barrett/Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

ITEM 1 - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

FILE: R5-36

Author: *Director of Engineering Services, Stephen Taylor*

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee adopt the Minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14 February 2017 as a true and accurate reflection of the proceedings of that Meeting.

Janine Lea-Barrett/Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Any matters will address in General Business.

ITEM 2 – RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – STATUS REPORT

FILE: R5-36

AUTHOR: *Director of Engineering Services, Stephen Taylor*

- **Item 36** – Update on location of all existing grids – Council has appointed a designated Asset Inspector – remove from Status Report;
- **Item 51** – Seal on RR7518 – Resealing will commence in the next couple of weeks;
- **Item 56** – Council to discuss funding for emergency air strip on highway – No further progress – remove from Status Report;

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- **Item 73** – Re investigate the approach on bridges and additional danger areas on MR68 and SR3 – Work will commence on MR68 in the next couple of weeks and then move on to SR3 to tidy and make safe – on-going;
 - **Item 75** – Tilpa Weir Campground Upgrade – On-going;
 - **Item 78** – Upgrade and / or removal of grids – Committee discussion on removal and / or upgrade of single grid to double grid. Clearer guidelines required on responsibility for maintenance of grids sought by the Committee; The grid on SR12 at Sandy Creek is a single grid and in the wrong location. The grid at Bindi is a single grid and is considered to be dangerous; it needs to be replaced with a double grid. It is estimated that to change a grid from a single grid to a double grid would cost between \$45K-75K. Fencing would be a cheaper alternative however this would not be practical; Closer consultation between landholders and Council on maintenance/management of grids requested by the Committee;
 - It is understood that Carrathool Shire employ a contractor to maintain grids within their Shire, the Committee would like Council to investigate this avenue further.

MOTION: The Rural Roads Advisory Committee requested that Cobar Shire Council contact Carrathool Shire Council to find out how they fund their grid maintenance program.

Janine Lea-Barrett/Chris Lehman

CARRIED

- **Item 79** – That a Rural Roads Maintenance Program be created – The Committee were advised that Cobar Shire Council does have a Maintenance Program, a copy is available on Council's website. The Committee would like a copy of the program included in future meeting agenda papers – remove from the Status Report;
- **Item 80** – Council approach RMS to install a channelized right-hand turn at the Meadow Glen Rest Area – this area is a high value conservation area for Aboriginal artefacts. This issue has been addressed at LEMC and Cobar Shire Council meetings. Maurice Bell will table it at the next Traffic Committee Meeting - on-going;
- **Item 81** - Council form a road works crew – There are currently no funds available for a designated road works crew.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee receive and note the information contained in the Status Report.

Janine Lea-Barrett/Chris Lehman

CARRIED

ITEM 3 - EXPENDITURE REPORT

FILE: R5-36

Author: Director of Engineering Services, Stephen Taylor

- **Acres Billabong:**
 - Clarification sought on when work will commence – waiting on Aboriginal Assessment.
- **Industrial Area Improvement:**
 - This will be carried over to 2017/18 financial year.
- **Tilpa Weir Sign:**

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- The Tilpa Weir sign has been stolen / removed. Andrew Farnsworth requested a replacement sign be erected as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the Capital Works Expenditure Report be received and noted.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Andrew Paul:

- SR31 last graded in September 2013 – it needs to be done again – lack of water is an issue however it is on the works program.

2. Andrew Farnsworth:

- RR7518 – north of Cobar – work will be done as soon as possible;
- SR10 – Work will commence when suitable crushed gravel has been sourced;
- Andrew is currently carting water for domestic purposes and for safety reason would like a ‘truck entering’ sign erected – Maurice Bell will organise the sign;
- SR9 – Work will not commence until 2017/2018 Financial Year.

3. George Milllear – Windara Bore:

- Clarification sought on the status of the bore on Windara Station – Council utilise this bore when practical.

4. Fifty Two Mile Road:

- A recent accident on this road has highlighted the need to address the sand drifts.
- Maurice Bell spoke at length in relation to the costs and process for ‘mixing’ for road works.
- The Committee suggested that Council consider the option of engaging contractors for specific road work ie grid maintenance. The Committee would also like Council to consider altering their work practices to take advantage of weather (rain) events – Stephen Taylor explained that Council must work within the State Award.

5. Diane Noble:

- Questioned Road Closures – Maurice Bell explained that the decision to close roads in wet conditions was for the safety of all road users;
- Would it be possible for landholders to erect ‘road closure’ signs at applicable locations when conditions warrant it ie following a rain event;
- If possible could the reversing barricades in Marshall Street, Cobar be painted for clearer visibility for pedestrians.
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6. Wilga Road:

- The funding for this road was all external funding – from the State Government and Fixing Country Roads Program.

7. Rural Roads Addressing:

- Peter Vlatko to follow-up on the status of Rural Roads Addressing.

8. Kevin Murphy:

- Kevin suggested that a cost sharing ratio be considered between landholders and Council to address the maintenance issue in relation to grids and to consider engaging a contractor to undertake the work. Peter Vlatko to follow-up.

9. Council Meeting with Minister:

- Representatives from Cobar Shire Council, Central Darling Shire and Balranald Shire met recently with the Minister to discuss road funding. A consultant has been engaged to prepare a brief for the Minister for Fixing Country Roads Funding.

10. Yathong Gravel Pit (SR12):

- Council cannot access this gravel pit as it is owned by National Parks.

11. Future Meeting:

- Consider holding a meeting at Mulya Station.

FUTURE MEETING

The next Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd August 2017, commencing at 11.00am at Tilpa Town Hall.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1.19