



Hawkesbury City Council

ordinary
meeting
business
paper

date of meeting: 09 March 2010
location: council chambers
time: 6:30 p.m.



mission
statement

***“To create opportunities
for a variety of work
and lifestyle choices
in a healthy, natural
environment”***

How Council Operates

Hawkesbury City Council supports and encourages the involvement and participation of local residents in issues that affect the City.

The 12 Councillors who represent Hawkesbury City Council are elected at Local Government elections held every four years. Voting at these elections is compulsory for residents who are aged 18 years and over and who reside permanently in the City.

Ordinary Meetings of Council are held on the second Tuesday of each month, except January, and the last Tuesday of each month, except December. The meetings start at 6:30pm and are scheduled to conclude by 11:00pm. These meetings are open to the public.

When an Extraordinary Meeting of Council is held it will usually start at 6:30pm. These meetings are also open to the public.

Meeting Procedure

The Mayor is Chairperson of the meeting.

The business paper contains the agenda and information on the issues to be dealt with at the meeting. Matters before the Council will be dealt with by an exception process. This involves Councillors advising the General Manager at least two hours before the meeting of those matters they wish to discuss. A list will then be prepared of all matters to be discussed and this will be publicly displayed in the Chambers. At the appropriate stage of the meeting, the Chairperson will move for all those matters not listed for discussion to be adopted. The meeting then will proceed to deal with each item listed for discussion and decision.

Public Participation

Members of the public can request to speak about a matter raised in the business paper for the Council meeting. You must register to speak prior to 3:00pm on the day of the meeting by contacting Council. You will need to complete an application form and lodge it with the General Manager by this time, where possible. The application form is available on the Council's website, from reception, at the meeting, by contacting the Manager Corporate Services and Governance on 4560 4426 or by email at fsut@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

The Mayor will invite interested persons to address the Council when the matter is being considered. Speakers have a maximum of five minutes to present their views. If there are a large number of responses in a matter, they may be asked to organise for three representatives to address the Council.

A Point of Interest

Voting on matters for consideration is operated electronically. Councillors have in front of them both a "Yes" and a "No" button with which they cast their vote. The results of the vote are displayed on the electronic voting board above the Minute Clerk. This was an innovation in Australian Local Government pioneered by Hawkesbury City Council.

Planning Decision

Under Section 375A of the Local Government Act 1993, details of those Councillors supporting or opposing a 'planning decision' must be recorded in a register. For this purpose a division must be called when a motion in relation to the matter is put to the meeting. This will enable the names of those Councillors voting for or against the motion to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and subsequently included in the required register.

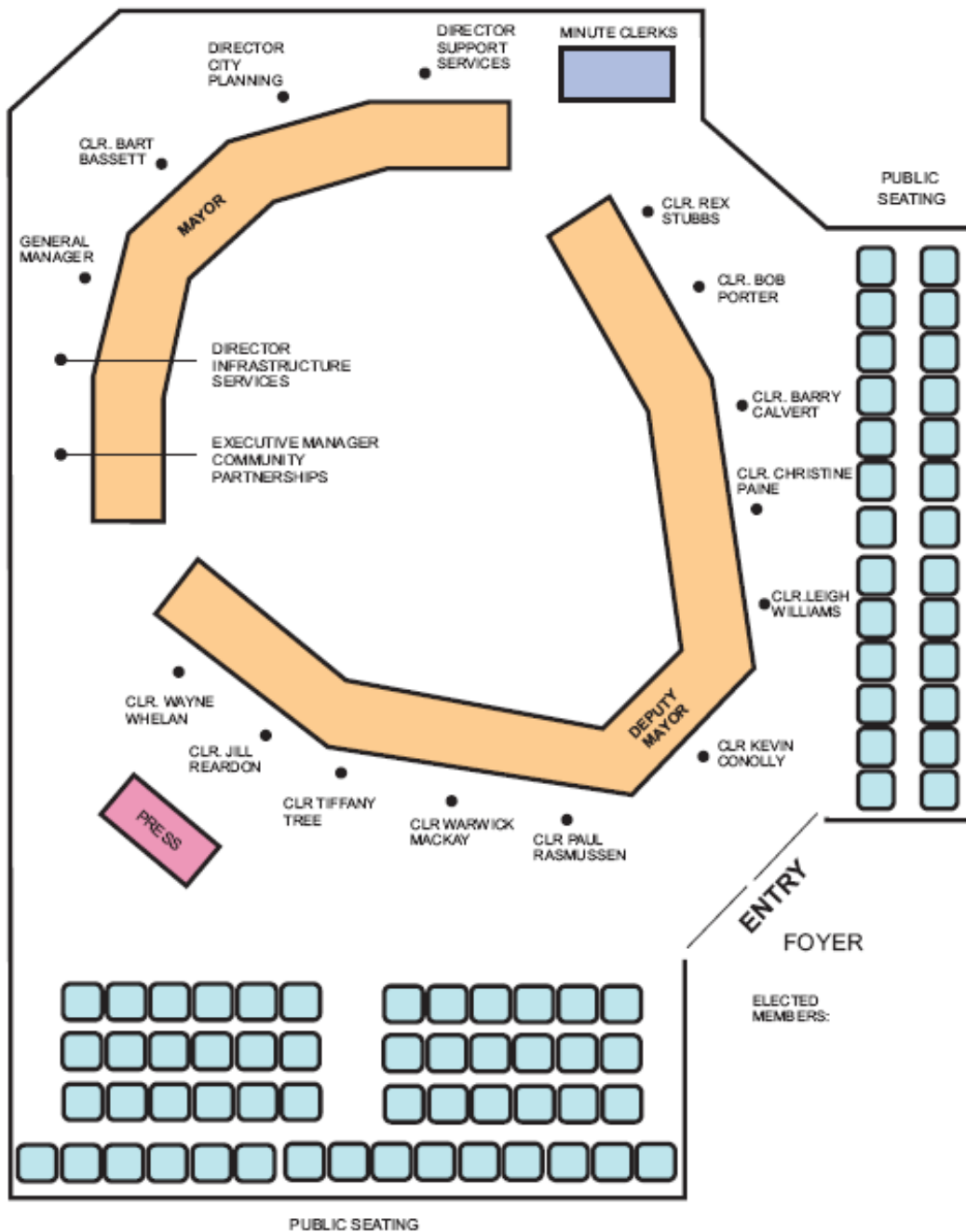
Website

Business Papers can be viewed on Council's website from noon on the Friday before each meeting. The website address is www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

Further Information

A guide to Council Meetings is available on the Council's website. If you require further information about meetings of Council, please contact the Manager, Corporate Services and Governance on, telephone 02 4560 4426.

hawkesbury city council council chambers



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SECTION 4 - Reports for Determination

GENERAL MANAGER

Item: 40 GM - Local Climate Local Change Conference 2010 - (79351)

REPORT:

The Local Climate Local Change Conference 2010 will be held 18 - 21 April, 2010 in the Blue Mountains NSW.

The Local Climate Local Change Conference is an all-encompassing forum for climate change adaptation and mitigation actions, attitudes and information that showcase Australian Frontline Community Action that is occurring at 'grass roots'.

The Conference will relate to all those interested in the efforts of local communities in adapting to and mitigating for climate change including: professional practitioners, local, state and federal government officers, academics, community climate change organisations, eco-ambassadors and the community, to name a few.

Cost of attendance at the Local Climate Local Change Conference 2010 will be approximately \$2,022.00 plus travel expenses per delegate.

Budget for Delegate Expenses - Payments made

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| • Total budget for Financial Year 2009/2010 | \$48,000.00 |
| • Expenditure to date 1/3/10 | \$34,845.36 |
| • Budget balance as at 1/3/10 | \$13,154.64 |

It should be noted that at the Ordinary meeting held 23 February, 2010 Council resolved to send 6 Councillors to the Local Government Managers Australia 2010 National Congress & Business Expo in Adelaide. Costs associated with this Conference are yet to be incurred and are therefore not included in the expenditure to date.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

Vision - Caring for our environment

Direction:

- Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way and employ best practices and technologies that are in harmony with our natural environment.

Strategy:

- Participate with regional groups to develop a climate change strategy that identifies targets which balance benefits and costs.

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Funding

Funding for this proposal will be provided from the Delegates Expenses Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attendance of nominated Councillors, and staff members as considered appropriate by the General Manager, at the Local Climate Local Change Conference 2010 at an approximate cost of \$2,022.00 per delegate be approved.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

CITY PLANNING

Item: 41 CP - Request from Local Schools for Relief from Fees for Inspection of Canteens for Compliance with the Food Act and NSW Food Authority Requirements - (95498, 96330)

REPORT:

In the past few months representations have been received from some Principals and Parents and Citizens Associations of Hawkesbury local public and private schools, requesting Council to waive the adopted fees associated with the food safety program inspection of their canteens.

Under the requirements of the partnership with the NSW Food Authority, school canteens require an annual inspection, to gauge compliance with the current standards governing food handling in NSW.

These standards have been developed by the Authority, which provides a schedule for the types of food businesses that should be included in an inspection program. They also identify the food business risk category and recommend inspection frequencies, which in the case of school canteens, are one inspection each year.

The inclusion of the school canteens in the food safety program is considered to be in the best interests of the students, and to ensure parents have confidence of the hygiene standards at the school.

The adopted fee for such inspections varies between \$104.00 and \$135.00 depending upon the types of food handling activities that take place in the canteen, and there are 37 schools in the Hawkesbury that would be liable for these fees.

Some of the reasons the schools have given for the request to waive the fees are:

- the schools are "not for profit" organisations, in that all the profits from the activities goes back into funding school projects and purchases;
- the staffing of the canteens is done by volunteer parents of the relevant schools;
- the profit margins from the sale of products in the canteens is minimal and may affect the viability of the canteens to operate if the fees are required to be paid;
- Blacktown and Penrith Councils do not charge an inspection fee for canteen inspections.

Discussions with Penrith City Council have revealed that they do charge an inspection fee for their schools, but not an administration fee which applies to all other commercial food outlets in their city area. Penrith City Council's current administration fee for the scale of activities that are undertaken by schools would be \$250.00 annually, if they were treated the same as other commercial food outlets.

Blacktown City Council does not presently charge a fee to their schools for food premises inspections, and there are no current plans to introduce one in the near future.

Enquiries with The Hills Shire Council regarding their fee structure for schools, has revealed that they are presently not charging an inspection fee, but are recommending to their Council, that the administration fee should apply to schools from the commencement of the 2010/2011 financial year.

The reason for the fees being imposed on those premises that conduct activities associated with the production and/or serving of food in the Hawkesbury, is to recover part of the costs associated with carrying out the inspection regime, and to provide educational resources and activities that gives comfort to

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the community, that the food they purchase from outlets in the Hawkesbury meet the food safety standards required.

The current legislation, introduced during the 2009/2010 financial year, also provides for administration fees to be charged in addition to the inspection fees currently being charged, with a maximum scale of fees being provided in the legislation for this purpose.

The majority of neighbouring Councils have introduced the administration fee into their fees and charges, and as from the 2010/2011 financial year, it is proposed that Hawkesbury City Council also charge an administration fee together with an inspection fee, to allow full cost recovery to run its current food inspection and education programs. The administration fee proposed for introduction into the 2010/2011 financial year is set at 50% of the maximum fee set in the legislation, in order to assist in the phasing in of this fee.

Should the administration fee be introduced into Council's 2010/2011 fees and charges, the current fee of \$30 per head for providing food handling training courses, would be abolished, as this would be incorporated into the administration fees charged.

The reason for raising this issue in this report, is that, as part of the proposed new administration fee for the 2010/2011 financial year, it was also proposed that schools and legitimate "not for profit organisations", would be exempt from this administration fee.

This would amount to an annual saving for these organisations of \$125.00 per year, which is the administration fee that could be applied, if approved, to these types of food handling activities.

Council currently exempts legitimate "not for profit" organisations, such as service clubs (Lions, Rotary etc.) as they do "one-off", intermittent events for a wide variety of community recipients.

Should Council decide to waive the food premises inspection fee charged to schools in the City, then this would amount to approximately \$4,500 per year in lost revenue which is currently used to provide the food inspection and education programs.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the Shaping Our Future Together Direction statement;

- *Be financially sustainable to meet the current and future needs of the community based on a diversified income base, affordable and viable services.*

and is also consistent with the strategy in the Community Strategic Plan being:

- Maintain and review a sustainable long term financial framework.

Funding

The current fee for food inspection premises is imposed to partially cover the costs of the required annual inspections. Should Council exempt schools from the subject inspection fee it will reduce the income for health services by approximately \$4,500 this financial year as the current inspection regime must still be provided.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Council advise the schools that have made representations that the fee for carrying out the inspection of their canteen facilities, is appropriate for the amount of work Council undertakes to ensure the safety of food served by their volunteers.

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2. Schools within the Hawkesbury be excluded from the requirement to pay the administration fee should the administration fee be included in the 2010/2011 fees and charges for commercial food premises.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

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Item: 42 **CP - Possible Establishment of Plastic Shopping Bag Free Zones Within the City Area - (95498)**

Previous Item: NM2, Ordinary (8 December 2009)

REPORT:

At the meeting of Council held on 8 December 2009, it was resolved that *“a report be submitted to Council in relation to possible actions that could be taken by Council to encourage the establishment of plastic shopping bag free zones within the City area similar to the recent proposal by the Kurrajong Village Retailers that was supported by Council.”*

In considering this request, it has been established through researching other local government areas that have introduced or supported the introduction of plastic shopping bag free zones, that the programs that have had the greatest success, have come from a process, where the retailers themselves, have created the cultural change from plastic shopping bags, to long term reusable bags, paper bags, or starch bio bags.

Many programs have been run by councils who have supplied the alternate bags to its community for a short period of time, to “kick off” the program and encourage the change. However, whilst the shopkeepers have the plastic shopping bag available in their stores, this change is very short lived, or not even attempted to be used by the community if they find other uses for the bags, rather than as shopping bags.

The Kurrajong Village Program has proceeded due to the efforts of a small group who have encouraged and gained the support of the local shopkeepers to make the change within the village area and not have alternate plastic shopping bag available for use.

It has been noted that Coles Supermarket in Windsor now has its check out operators asking if the customer has with them a plastic bag alternative. If the answer is “no” they are then given the plastic bags to carry their goods. Whilst their efforts are commendable, they are only going part way to solve the problem.

Aldi, has for some considerable time not provided plastic shopping bags to its customers, but does sell reusable bags should the customer be in need of something to carry their goods in.

Bunnings is similar to Aldi in that no bags are given to its customers, but packing boxes are recycled and offered to their customers for carrying their goods, or reusable bags can be purchased at a minimal charge.

Other stores in the Hawkesbury may be offering similar alternatives to the plastic shopping bags, but these have not been fully investigated.

It is considered that, similar to the Kurrajong Village experience, a “champion for the cause” is needed to gain co-operation from the shopkeepers to change their processes of offering plastic shopping bags where the customer has not brought an alternate reusable bag to carry their purchases. It is also imperative that the shopkeepers themselves are fully committed to the change, otherwise the program, regardless of the Council’s intentions, will not succeed.

It is suggested that a solution may lie with either the local Business Groups or Chambers of Commerce. These bodies have direct contact with the majority of store owners in the City and could encourage and drive a combined shift amongst the store owners in a particular area which could assure the stores who chose to ban plastic shopping bags in their stores are supported. The storekeepers need to be ensured that they would not lose customers because of their decision, and that all the stores in their location were doing the same thing.

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Whilst the ultimate success of a program of this nature needs to come from the actual store owners with a united decision to **all** stop offering plastic shopping bags to their customers in a particular area, Council could play an active part by facilitating information distribution and advice on alternate bags, etc. This may include arranging media coverage of the program, and giving general support to the organisers and the shopkeepers whilst the program is in its infancy. Once established, the program should be self supporting and become the normal situation for our community.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the *'Caring for our Environment'* Directions statement;

'Take active steps to encourage lifestyle choices that minimise our environmental footprint.'

and is also consistent with the *strategy* in the Community Strategic Plan being:

"Encourage and educate the community to care for their environment."

and is also consistent with the *goal* in the Community Strategic Plan being:

'People are living more sustainably'

and is also consistent with the *measure* in the Community Strategic Plan being:

"An informed community that embraces sustainable practices."

Funding

There are no funding implications associated with this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The information be received
2. Council write to local Chambers of Commerce and local Business Groups to encourage their members to take on the challenge of becoming a champion in the pursuit of having Hawkesbury City Council's shopping areas plastic shopping bag free.
3. Council facilitate communication between local stores and the Chambers of Commerce or local Business Groups.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

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INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Item: 43 **IS - Recycling Service in Parks and Reserves - (95495, 79354)**

Previous Item: QWN 5, Ordinary (26 February 2009)

REPORT:

A Question Without Notice was raised at Ordinary Meeting of 26 February 2009, requesting a report to be bought to Council outlining the costs to install recycling bins within Councils parks and reserves.

At the time of this request, tender submissions were being called for Kerbside Recycling and it was determined to defer investigations until such time as the new contract was awarded. Following Council's resolution of 12 May 2009, where it was resolved to accept the recycling tender of JJ Richards and Sons Pty Ltd, discussions were held with the company to estimate costs for providing a recycling service within parks and reserves.

The current contract for recycling is based on a kerbside collection, however, due to staff resources involved in this kind of service, JJ Richards and Sons Pty Ltd were asked to quote based on a 'Wheel Out Wheel Back' basis, where their staff enter the park to retrieve the bins and return them to their appropriate location once the bin is emptied. Whilst the cost to provide this service is higher due to the time involved in collecting and replacing bins, than the kerbside collection service, it is considered overall to be more cost effective compared to the extra duties placed on Council's Parks Staff.

Discussions were held with representatives of JJ Richards and Sons Pty Ltd, who have been able to provide quotes for weekly and fortnightly collections based on 50 recycling bins. The costs are outlined in the table below.

Wheel Out Wheel Back Collection Service	Annual Collection Cost based on 50 bins
Fortnightly Collection	\$11,570
Weekly Collection	\$36,946

In addition, consideration needs to be given to the following:

1. Cost of initial purchase of the recycling bins, and the replacement cost of each bin in the event of vandalism - \$76.12 plus GST per bin.
2. The fitting of specific lids onto each bin, which will assist in reducing contamination - \$18.27 plus GST per lid per bin. It should be noted that JJ Richards and Sons Pty Ltd have indicated that the bins may not be emptied if they are contaminated.
3. Signage to provide public education on recycling, and identify products that can be recycled. Printing can be undertaken in house, and it is estimated the cost would be approximately \$100 per sign.
4. Appropriate housing of bins to reduce vandalism/burning (approx. \$2,500 - \$4,000 each housing). This can be an expensive process, and so it is suggested that a trial period be undertaken to determine the viability of such service prior to the outlay of this capital cost.
5. In the absence of adequate housing, bin stands would be required to hold the bins at a cost of \$164.00 plus GST per stand.

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In considering the options outlined above, it is recommended that a trial period be undertaken during the 2010/2011 financial year, based on 50 recycling bins being collected on a fortnightly basis, including bin stands, lids and signage, to determine the viability of the service. It is possible to consider bin housing options following the trial period. In the event the recycling service is not continued following the trial period, the infrastructure purchased can be utilised as part of the general rubbish collection service.

An outline of costs based on the recommended trial period of 50 bins, including required upfront cost, is listed below.

Item	Cost per unit (GST Excl.)	Quantity Required	Total (GST Excl.)
Capital Cost			
Purchase of Bins (utilising the green bodied – yellow lidded waste carts)	\$76.12	50	\$3,806
Special lids	\$18.27	50	\$913.50
Bin Stands	\$164.00	50	\$8,200
Installation	Approx. \$200	50	\$10,000
Signage	Approx. \$100	50	\$5,000
Sub Total			\$27,919.50
Ongoing Cost			
Fortnightly Collection Wheel Out Wheel Back	\$8.90	50 x 26 weeks	\$11,570 pa
Total (Incl. Capital Cost and Fortnightly Collection for 1st year.)			\$39,489.50

It is important to note that whilst the capital cost is substantial, the ongoing cost per year is considered reasonable, amounting to approximately \$222 per week.

It is proposed to locate the bins in high usage areas such as Smith Park, McQuade Park, Bensons Lane, the Netball Courts and Richmond Park.

Within the current budget, there is no allocation within the Parks Cleaning component for a recycling service, and the Sports Council funding has been fully allocated towards identified projects. Whilst some funding is available within the 2009/2010 Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payment Program, supplementary funding for the initial purchase of infrastructure, and annual collection charges would need to be identified as part of the 2010/2011 budget process.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the ‘Caring for our Environment’ Directions statement;

‘Take active steps to encourage lifestyle choices that minimise our environmental footprint.’

and is also consistent with the *strategy* in the Community Strategic Plan being:

“Develop and implement waste and recycling strategies.”

and is also consistent with the *goal* in the Community Strategic Plan being:

‘Maximise resource reuse, repair and recycling’

and is also consistent with the *measure* in the Community Strategic Plan being:

‘Achieve and exceed the State Government standards for recycling and the reduction of solid waste and wastewater.’

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Part funding of \$14,200 has been provided within the 2009/2010 Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payment Program. Additional capital cost, and annual collection charges would need to be identified as part of the 2010/2011 budget process.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Subject to part 2 below, a trial period be undertaken during the 2010/2011 financial year, to ascertain the viability of a recycling service being provided within suitable parks and reserves.
2. Funding be considered as part of the 2010/2011 Budget for the purchase of 50 recycling bins, including bin stands, lids and signage, and the necessary installation works, and the cost of the fortnightly recycling collection service for the duration of the trial period.
3. Should the trial period prove successful, a further report be submitted to Council to allow consideration of the recycling collection service within suitable parks and reserves being maintained on a permanent basis.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

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SUPPORT SERVICES

Item: 44 SS - General Rates for the 2010/2011 Financial Year - (95496, 96332)

Previous Item: 54, Ordinary (10 March 2009)

REPORT:

As indicated at the Councillors' Briefing Session held on 2 March 2010, the purpose of this report is to highlight issues to Council in respect of rating for the 2010/2011 financial year, and to obtain direction from Council in addressing these issues as part of the 2010/2011 budgetary process.

Council levies general land rates on properties in its Local Government Area (LGA) based on an *ad valorem* basis. This means that the rate in the dollar applicable to each property is determined by reference to its land value, as determined by the Valuer General. Council also uses a minimum rate system, resulting in each property at least being charged a minimum rate. For the 2009/2010 financial year, the minimum rate for all rateable properties is \$443. As at 1 July 2009, Council had 24,315 rateable properties in its LGA.

The permissible notional income that a council can raise, based on land valuations, is generally increased from year to year through the rate pegging process. Each financial year, councils are permitted to increase their rates under Section 506 of the Local Government Act, 1993. The permissible increase is limited by the State Government and is generally referred to as the "rate pegging" limit. For the 2009/2010 financial year, the rate pegging limit granted to councils was 3.5%. The Division of Local Government (DLG) has forwarded Circular No 10-2, dated 16 February 2010, advising that the Minister for Local Government has announced a 2.6% increase for the rating year commencing 1 July 2010.

General Rates 2010/2011

Earlier in the report reference was made to the rate levy being based on land values. This results in the rates levy applicable to each property fluctuating depending on the Valuer General's land revaluations, which occur on a 3 year cycle. The rates levy applicable to each property can vary significantly as a direct result of changes in land values, with increases for some ratepayers being offset by decreases for others. These changes in land values do not change Council's overall rating income, but merely redistributes the levy applicable to each rateable property in the LGA.

The Valuer General revalued the properties in the Council LGA in 2008, to be used for rating purposes from 1 July 2009. These valuations have resulted in significant changes to the levy applicable to each rating category. Council has three rating categories, being Residential, Business and Farmland.

As indicated, the rate pegging increase for 2009/2010 was 3.5%. As new values also had to be utilised, this resulted in varying changes across all rating categories ranging from actual decreases to significant increase in respect of individual properties, when compared to the 2008/2009 rating year. The following table shows the broad ranges of these changes.

2009/2010 Rate Increase Ranges

% Increase	<=3.5%		>3.5% - 20%		>20% - 50%		>50%		Total Properties
Residential	17569	79.17%	3273	14.75%	697	3.14%	652	2.94%	22191
Business	706	47.35%	309	20.72%	256	17.17%	220	14.76%	1491
Farmland	227	35.86%	162	25.59%	73	11.53%	171	27.01%	633

(Bold limited to 20% - addressed later in report)

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In adopting the Revenue Pricing Policy for 2009/2010, Council resolved that the *ad valorem* rate for the Residential and Business properties be the same, whilst the Farmland rate in the dollar is approximately 80% of the other 2 categories.

As seen above, the changes in land values resulting from the recent valuation affected all 3 rating categories, with some properties experiencing increases in land values, and therefore the rate levy applicable, and others benefiting from a decrease.

The changes in valuations for properties in the Farmland Category due to the general revaluation were significant. In the report to the Council Meeting of the 10 March 2009, the range of changes was highlighted, with suburbs such as Oakville, receiving a decrease overall of 13.93% and the Richmond Lowlands area receiving an increase of 193.19%. When compared to the overall LGA average of 9.39%, this meant that there would be considerable increases and decreases in Farmland rates for the 2009/2010 rating year.

While rateable properties in the Residential and Business Categories were impacted by the full change in values, the Farmland Category was partially protected by Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act, 1993. This clause applies to ordinary rates levied for the year commencing 1 July 2005, or any of the next four years and is as follows:-

"84 (1) This clause applies to ordinary rates levied for the year commencing 1 July 2005 or any of the next 4 years following the commencement of the 2005 amending Act.

(2) Subject to the provisions of any proclamation in force under section 213 or 218C, the amount that may be levied as an ordinary rate for any parcel of land in the category "farmland", or any sub-category of that category, must not be more than 20 per cent above the amount levied as an ordinary rate for that parcel for the previous year."

This effectively means that, irrespective of the rate levy resulting from a land revaluation, if the property falls in the Farmland Category, the increase in the levy charged for the years from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2010, is limited to 20% on the previous year's rate. During the period when this legislation is applicable, councils are required to abandon any increases over 20% applicable to the Farmland Category during the year when the levy is charged.

Recoverable Abandonments

Council's permissible notional income may also be increased to recover certain abandonments. Amounts written off in one year, in accordance with Clause 130 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, in relation to Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act, 1993, may be recovered the following year. Each year, these recoverable abandonments are generally minimal and usually relate to properties that become non-rateable during the year, such as the purchase of a property used for religious purposes. This amount can be recovered in 2010/2011 by way of an increase in permissible income. The following section of this report relates to this amount of recoverable abandonments.

As a result of the recent land revaluations, 244 of the then 633 Farmland properties in the LGA suffered an increase in rates payable in excess of 20% on the previous rateable year. In accordance with Clause 130 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, in 2009/2010, Council abandoned these amounts, totalling \$193,542.

This amount has been written off in 2009/2010, but may be recouped in 2010/2011. As mentioned earlier in the report, the DLG allows councils to include the lost revenue in one year as part of the notional income calculation for the following year. This is referred to as a "catch up" amount. In calculating the notional income, incorporating the "catch up" provision for 2010/2011, it is estimated that Hawkesbury City Council would be able to increase the rates levy by up to approximately 3.39%. As rate pegging for 2010/2011 has been set at 2.6%, this would mean an additional increase of approximately 0.79% ("catch up" amount) is required to recover the lost income. The overall effect of this practice is that the abandonment amount for 2009/2010 is recovered in 2010/2011 from all rating categories, hence minimising the impact on the Farmland Category.

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The "catch up" amount can be recovered by a council in the 2 year period following it becoming available. Any of the "catch up" amount not recovered in that 2 year period is not subsequently recoverable. It is proposed that the 2010/2011 Draft Budget will be prepared for Council's consideration, on the basis of 50% of the "catch up" being recovered as part of the 2010/2011 rating process, and the remaining 50%, together with any other "catch up" that may subsequently become available, being recovered in the 2011/2012 rating year.

Effects on Farmland Rating Category

As indicated previously, the general evaluation of properties that occurred throughout the area in 2008/2009 (which became effective for rating purposes from 1 July 2009), have wide ranging effects across all rating categories, including the Farmland Category. The table previously included in the report broadly detailed these effects.

However, as indicated previously, increases to the rates applicable to the Farmland Category, due to the effects of the property revaluation, were limited to 20%.

In line with Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Act, as from the 2010/2011 rating year, councils are no longer required by legislation to limit the increase for the Farmland Category to 20% on the previous year. It was initially anticipated that the State Government would extend this provision, however advice from the DLG indicated that will not occur. Accordingly, councils will be required to apply the full levy, based on land value, to all rating categories including Farmland. Formal advice is expected from the DLG shortly.

Had the provisions of Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Act continued (i.e. increases capped at 20%) in respect of the coming 2010/2011 rating year of the 633 assessments in the Farmland Category (as at 1 July 2009), approximately 244 properties would have been affected with an increase of over 20%, which would have been limited to 20% by the cap. On this basis, the average increase over 20% would have been, on average, 64%.

With the removal of the cap provisions, these properties will be required to pay rates based upon their assessed land values, without the benefit of a cap in line with the remaining approximately 23,682 (as at 1 July 2009) properties in the LGA. It is anticipated that without the benefit of a cap, these properties will have an average increase of 84%, in addition to any rate pegging or catch up increases.

In view of these effects, the possibility of Council adopting a policy to effectively mirror the provision of Clause 84 of the Schedule 8 of the Act (i.e. cap any increase at 20%) was discussed with Council's Solicitors. After considering the issue they advised that they considered that there were no provisions within the Act that would enable the Council to implement such a policy. It will be subsequently recommended in this report that Council make representations to the Minister to extend the current provisions of Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Act.

As Council will now be required, subject to the result of any representations, to rate Farmland properties without the effects of a cap, and on the basis that Council may wish to attempt to lessen the effects on Farmland properties, other "avenues" of addressing the issue have, and are, being explored.

One of the "avenues" would be to reduce the level of the Farmland rate (currently 80% of the Business and Residential rate) to the point where, on average, the increase payable by the affected 244 properties, would be 0% above the 20% cap that would have applied, had the previous provisions continued. This is effectively attempting to continue the cap from these properties and limit their increase to, on average, 20% (the former cap level) excluding any rate pegging or catch up increases.

To achieve this effect, it would require a reduction in the Farmland rate to approximately 67.5% of the Residential/Business rate, subsequently resulting in approximately 457 properties receiving a reduction in rates, with approximately 176 receiving a reduced increase compared with the applicable increase under normal circumstances.

The above action would reduce the amount raised from the Farmland rate by approximately \$195,000, and this would then be collected as part of Council's total rate revenue from the remaining rateable properties.

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This would equate to an approximate, on average, increase of \$8.40 per property to compensate for the Farmland increase.

Alternately, the effects of limiting the Farmland rate to 70% of the Business/Residential rate, and the introduction of a "base amount" and an *ad valorem* rate for the Farmland Category is also being explored.

As Council is aware, Management is currently in the process of preparing the 2010/2011 Draft Budget for Council's consideration in the near future, prior to public exhibition. Direction is therefore needed as to the manner in which these issues (catch up amount and Farmland rates) are addressed in the Draft Budget. The issue of the catch up amount has been previously addressed and will be incorporated in the recommendation.

In respect of Farmland rates, it is suggested that Council should now indicate if it wishes to review this category, in the light of the cap provided for under Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Act no longer being applicable. If so, it is suggested that an additional report could be submitted to the next meeting, further exploring opportunities that may be available. This would also enable general adjustments to be made in the Draft Budget pending a final determination on this aspect of the matter.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the directions set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

"Have transparent, accountable and respected leadership and an engaged community"

Funding

The results of decisions made on these issues have varying impacts on Council's income, as detailed in the report, and the effects of any decisions made will need to be incorporated into Council's 2010/2011 Budget currently being drafted.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Council make representations to the Minister for Local Government seeking the extension of the provisions of Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act, 1993, in respect to limits placed upon annual increases in rates for Farmland properties.
2. Council's local State Members of Parliament be requested to support Council's representation referred to in 1 above.
3. In respect of the "catch up" amount available to Council as referred to in the report, 50% of that amount be incorporated into the 2010/2011 Draft Budget, for Council's further consideration on the basis of the remaining 50%, and any other available "catch up" amount being incorporated into the subsequent 2011/2012 Draft Budget.
4. The 2010/2011 Draft Budget, as related to Farmland rates, be prepared on the basis of Council taking action to reduce the effects of the discontinuation of Clause 84 of Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act, 1993, on relevant Farmland properties as suggested within the report, and a further report be submitted to Council on possible "avenues" available in this regard.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

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CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

SUPPORT SERVICES

**Item: 45 SS - Property Matter - Lease to Sligar Holdings Pty Ltd, trading as McGraths Hill
Bakehouse - Shop 3 McGraths Hill Shopping Centre, McGraths Hill - (95496, 9587)
CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason for Confidentiality

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.*

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(c) of the Act as it relates to details concerning the leasing of a Council property and it is considered that the release of the information would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person or organisation with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) & (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other relevant documentation relating to this matter are to be withheld from the press and public.

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ordinary

section 5

reports
of committees

ORDINARY MEETING
Reports of Committees

ORDINARY MEETING
Reports of Committees

SECTION 5 - Reports of Committees

ROC - Community Planning Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - 19 November 2009 - (96737)

The meeting commenced at 9.30am in Council Committee Rooms.

Present:	Councillor Barry Calvert Ms Vickie Shackley Mr Chris McAlpine Ms Ozen Karanlik Mr Matt Owens	Chair Community Representative Community Representative Metrowest Nepean Network Office DoCS Hawkesbury City Council
Apologies:	Councillor (Dr) Rex Stubbs OAM Mr Matt Thorp Mr Nick Sabel Ms Karen Carter	Deputy Chair Nth Richmond Community Centre Wentworth Community Housing Merana Aboriginal Community Assn
In Attendance:	Mr Michael Laing Ms Robyn Felsch (Minute Secretary)	Hawkesbury City Council Hawkesbury City Council

REPORT:

WELCOME

Councillor Calvert opened the meeting and thanked those present for their attendance.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Ms Vickie Shackley and seconded by Mr Chris McAlpine that the Minutes of the Community Planning Committee held on the 20 August 2009, be confirmed and accepted with no alteration.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Item 4: "Young People - Community Participation and Civic Leadership" Report

Mr McAlpine requested a follow-up on the report in relation to Young People - Community Participation and Civic Leadership.

Mr Laing advised that a further report was raised at the recent Council meeting on Tuesday 10 November, 2009. The report to Council provides more details and Mr Laing advised that he would provide a copy of the report to members of the Community Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC).

Councillor Calvert commented that he is disappointed that young people expressed that they don't wish to be involved in more formal committee meetings or processes to discuss the issues indicated in the report. It was suggested that it might be a good idea to have a dedicated position, which might assist with encouraging youth involvement in committees.

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Mr Owens advised that a youth forum was involved in the development of the Community Strategic Plan. The forum had good representation by youth. There would be a need to choose which committee is appropriate and worthwhile for investigating the matter of youth involvement in more formal committees.

Councillor Calvert advised that at the Youth Summit, which is convened for the following week (24/11/09), he would look at putting forward the suggestion on how they feel the void can be filled and how the youth feel they can be involved. Ms Karanlik commented that it would be a good idea to raise these issues and questions to youth at the Youth Forum on the 24 November, 2009.

The question on how Council will be represented at the Youth Forum was raised and it was noted that the Mayor would open the Forum and be part of the panel. Invitations have also been sent to all Councillors.

It was noted by CPAC that communicating with Youth is a priority.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Investigations on the number of viable strategies for engagement with Youth are explored to ensure they have input into planning and Council and that they have knowledge of the necessary steps.
2. CPAC be briefed on the outcomes of the Youth Summit and how the outcomes will be implemented.
3. An invitation be extended to a representative from the Youth Summit to attend the next CPAC meeting.
4. Recommendation 1, be deferred until after the Youth Summit and the outcomes report is available.

Attendance Register of Community Planning Advisory Committee

Member	21.05.09	20.08.09	19.11.09
Councillor Barry Calvert - Chair	A	✓	✓
Councillor (Dr) Rex Stubbs OAM	✓	A	A
Ms Vickie Shackley	✓	✓	✓
Mr Nick Sabel	A	X	A
Mr Chris McAlpine	✓	✓	✓
Ms Ozen Karanlik	n/a	✓	✓
Mr Matt Thorp	✓	✓	A
Ms Karen Carter	A	✓	A
Ms Sharon Payne	X	X	Resigned
Ms Virginia Kruse	X	X	Resigned

Key: A = Formal Apology ✓ = Present X = Absent - no apology

SECTION 4 - Reports for Information

Item: 1 Concerns about the loss of the Western Sydney Area Assistance Scheme (WSAAS) & the (new) Community Builders Funding Scheme - November 2009 Update

DISCUSSION:

- Mr Laing advised that a meeting has been held with Western Sydney Council representatives. It is a little too late for the Area Assistance Funding Scheme. The Scheme was seen as an important program and it would have been good to not let the program disappear. Mr Laing advised that there is no practical involvement in the program/scheme, as there is no requirement to be in contact with Council. Mr Laing advised that he could still be in contact if an applicant required.
- Councillor Calvert raised the question, will the Hawkesbury be disadvantaged if not involved in the scheme, compared to other councils? Mr Laing advised that the Scheme is now opened more broadly to not for profit organisations, which allows access for some smaller groups/ organisations/ businesses, but there is no local mechanism to co-ordinate or monitor this.
- Councillor Calvert raised the question of any recommendation/s, which CPAC can make to the Government in relation to the Community Builders Funding Scheme. It was noted that CPAC are disappointed with the changes as noted in the minutes of the previous meeting held 20 August, 2009.
- Noted to review how the scheme progresses first before making representations.
- CPAC to revisit mid-later in 2010 to see how the program has developed and then make representation.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Ms Shackley, seconded by Ms Karanlik.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That CPAC to review in mid to late 2010 to see how the Community Builders Funding Scheme has progressed and then make representations as required.

Item: 2 Outline of the (draft) Hawkesbury Social Planning Framework

DISCUSSION:

- Mr Laing advised that the (draft) Hawkesbury Social Planning Framework is at the early stage of development and is an outline at the moment, but it is a good tool to reach an integrated process to develop a framework.
- Councillor Calvert raised concerns regarding equality and equity. Councillor Calvert believes that most policies are based on equality not equity and that the State Government is trying to ensure this is considered when developing policy and this is what needs to be reviewed.

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Reports of Committees

- Mr McAlpine commented that equal access is also important for all.
- Mr McAlpine asked about the involvement with other organisations and council areas and also multicultural plans previously developed - are these now null and void? Mr Laing advised that the plans/planning have involved some aspects in these areas.
- Mr Laing advised that it may be worthwhile having an appendix to the document to indicate what plans and legislation has been used and incorporated as part of the framework.
- CPAC noted the report and congratulated Mr Laing on a job well done on the development of the (draft) Hawkesbury Social Planning Framework.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Ms Shackley, seconded by Ms Karanlik.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The information be received.
2. An update on the progress of the draft Hawkesbury Social Planning Framework is presented to the next meeting of the CPAC.

SECTION 5 - General Business

- Councillor (Dr) Rex Stubbs - CPAC noted that they would like to send a message of thanks and best wishes to Councillor (Dr) Rex Stubbs. The message will include a thank you for his input into the CPAC over many years. It was suggested that a letter of appreciation to Councillor (Dr) Stubbs be prepared and forwarded under Mr Owens signature.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Calvert, seconded by Ms Shackley.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. A draft letter of appreciation to Councillor (Dr) Rex Stubbs be prepared for Mr Owens's signature.
- Draft Social Atlas - 2 Sections have been completed and will go forward to the Department of Local Government (DLG) so that they are aware. Profiling will be sent to the DLG in the next week. There are no major changes from what was viewed previously by CPAC and it primarily based on the 2006 Census. Only new information is an increase in the age category of 12 - 24 and also a decrease in the age category of 0-12years. The Census indicates an increase in 60plus category. Some shifts

ORDINARY MEETING

Reports of Committees

also noted in outlying areas, but the Hawkesbury is still a significant area for young families, even with the decrease in young children. An electronic copy to be distributed to CPAC following completion.

- Hawkesbury Community Survey 2009 (Final Draft) - was reported to Council at the last meeting held 10 November, 2009. Further work will commence within the next week. Contact with consultants will be made over the next few weeks and a report is expected to be back to staff by Christmas, 2009 with a report to Council early next year, February 2010. The final draft is mainly the same as the previous version, but it has been amended to be more in line with the Community Strategic Plan. The survey was conducted by Micromex by telephone and was a random sample of 400 community people 18 years and over. Following the report to Council, a further report will also come back to the CPAC at the next meeting in March, 2010.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. That the information be noted and received.
- Affordable Housing - Terms of Reference - Councillor Calvert raised the issue of having a representative attend to talk about this issue. It was noted that this was raised and noted in the CPAC minutes previously.
 - Residential Strategy - Mr Owens advised that the Residential Strategy has recently been raised at a Councillor Briefing Session and will be reported to Council at the meeting to be held on 8 December, 2009. Mr Owens advised that this document does touch on affordable housing and what has been noted is that the Hawkesbury do not have a lot of available land with the exception of Pitt Town, which has approximately 150 lots currently available with approximately 500 more to be developed in the future.
 - Homelessness - Mr Laing advised that he is on the Nepean Regional Taskforce on Homelessness and that he will provide an update on this Taskforce at the next CPAC meeting. It was suggested that at the next CPAC meeting, more information regarding affordable housing be provided and that an invitation be extended to someone from the Taskforce to attend the CPAC meeting. Alternatively, Mr Laing to report to CPAC and then a decision be made by CPAC on the way forward with issues raised.

Next Meeting - Thursday 18 March, 2010 at 9:30am in the Hawkesbury City Council Chambers.

The meeting closed @ 10.55am. Councillor Calvert thanked committee members for their contribution and wished all a great Christmas and New Year.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

ORDINARY MEETING
Reports of Committees

ROC - Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee Minutes - 8 February 2010 - (86589)

The meeting commenced at 4.34pm.

- Present:** Councillor Kevin Conolly - Chair
Councillor Bob Porter - Deputy Chair
Councillor Paul Rasmussen
Councillor Jill Reardon
Mr John Miller
Mr Alexander (Phil) Windebank
Mr David Scott
Mr Bill McMahon
Mr Geoffrey Bessell
Mr Kevin Jones
Mr David Avery
Mr Les Sheather
Mr Ian Johnston
Mr Peter Cinque
- Apologies:** Mr Ray Williams MP - Member for Hawkesbury
- In Attendance:** Mr Matthew Owens
Mr Philip Pleffer
Mr Chris Amit
Ms Robyn Kozjak
Ms Chris Bourne (representative for Ms Louise Markus MP)
- Non-Attendance:** Councillor Warwick Mackay
Snr Inspector Robert Bowman
-

REPORT:

RESOLVED on the motion of Mr John Miller and seconded by Councillor Reardon that the apology be accepted.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Reardon, and seconded by Mr Windebank that the Minutes of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee held on the 7 December 2009, be confirmed.

The Chair acknowledged the attendance of Mr Norman Johnson as an observer.

Mr (Ian) Johnston referred to an item discussed at the last meeting relating to encroachment of sand at Bens Point and thanked Mr Windebank for raising the issue in his absence. Further reference was made to the previous minute wherein it was resolved staff would make enquiries with Mr David Miller of DECCW in relation to this matter. Mr Owens advised contact is yet to be made with Mr Miller in this regard.

ORDINARY MEETING
Reports of Committees

Attendance Register of Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee - 2010

Member	8/02/10
Councillor Kevin Conolly - (Chair)	✓
Councillor Bob Porter - (Deputy Chair)	✓
Councillor Warwick Mackay	X
Councillor Paul Rasmussen	✓
Councillor Jill Reardon	✓
Mr Peter Cinque OAM - (SES Sydney Western Division)	✓
Mr David Avery - (Dept. of Environment and Climate Change)	✓
Mr David Scott - (Dept of Defence)	✓
Snr Inspector Robert Bowman (Department of Primary Industries)	X
Mr Les Sheather - (Community Member)	✓
Mr Kevin Jones - (SES Headquarters)	✓
Mr Geoffrey Bessel - (Community Member)	✓
Mr John Miller - (Community Member)	✓
Mr Bill McMahon - (Community Member)	✓
Mr Alexander (Phil) Windebank	✓
Mr Ian Johnston	✓

Key: A = Formal Apology ✓ = Present X = Absent - no apology

SECTION 3 - Reports for Determination

Item: 1 Flood Risk Management Study and Plan – Update of Tender Process and Establishment of Technical Sub - Committee

DISCUSSION:

The Committee agreed item 3 of the recommendation be amended to ensure the meeting be brought forward **as a matter of urgency** to consider the technical working group report.

Councillor Porter requested that his vote against the motion be noted and recorded in the minutes.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Mr John Miller, seconded by Councillor Reardon.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. A technical working group of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee be established for the purposes assisting the in delivery of the *Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan for the Hawkesbury River within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area*.
2. The technical working group is to consist of relevant Council staff, representatives of the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water, and representatives of the State Emergency Service.
3. The 19 April meeting of the Committee be brought forward as a matter of urgency to consider the technical working group report when finalised.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Rasmussen, seconded by Councillor Reardon.

That:

1. Mr David Avery of the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water be nominated to join the technical working group.
2. Mr Peter Cinque of the State Emergency Services be nominated to join the technical working group.

SECTION 5 - General Business

- Mr Miller made reference to an email received from the Attorney General's Department advising of grant funding under the Natural Disaster Resilience Program, managed by Emergency NSW.

ORDINARY MEETING

Reports of Committees

- Reference was made to a deferred item from the last meeting regarding evacuation assembly points. Query was raised as to the location of assembly points and Mr Cinque advised within the plan there is provision for providing buses, however, pick up points are yet to be identified.
- Mr Avery referred to the Thorley Street project and asked if he could be provided with an update. Mr Amit advised the final design stage was imminent and he envisaged the project would go out to tender in March, with completion expected this year.
- Mr Johnston referred to the locked gates at each end of the flood evacuation route at Pitt Town and raised concern as to the accessibility of the gates in an emergency. Mr Jones advised SES and Council holds the keys to the gates.

The Meeting closed @ 5.15pm.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

ORDINARY MEETING
Reports of Committees

ROC - Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - 11 February 2010 - (80242)

The meeting commenced at 5.03pm in Council Chambers.

Present:	Mr Graham Edds Professor Ian Jack Mr Jonathan Auld Ms Michelle Nichols Ms Danielle Wheeler Ms Jan Barkley Jack Mr Donald Ellsmore Councillor Jill Reardon	Chair Deputy Chair Community Member Community Member Community Member Community Member Heritage Advisor Hawkesbury City Council
Apologies:	Ms Deborah Hallam	Community Member
In Attendance:	Mr Matthew Owens Ms Shari Hussein Ms Keri Whiteley Ms Robyn Kozjak (Minute taker)	Hawkesbury City Council Hawkesbury City Council Hawkesbury City Council Hawkesbury City Council

REPORT:

RESOLVED on the motion of Professor Ian Jack and seconded by Ms Jan Barkley-Jack that the apology be accepted.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Professor Ian Jack and seconded by Councillor Reardon that the Minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee held on the 25 November 2009, be confirmed.

Attendance Register of Heritage Advisory Committee

Member	11/02/10
Councillor Jill Reardon– (HCC)	✓
Mr Graham Edds	✓
Ms Deborah Hallam	A
Professor Ian Jack	✓
Ms Jan Barkley Jack	✓
Mr Jonathan Auld	✓
Ms Michelle Nichols	✓
Ms Danielle Wheeler	✓
Mr Donald Ellismore	✓

Key: A = Formal Apology ✓ = Present X = Absent - no apology

SECTION 3 - Reports for Determination

Item: 1 Listing of Macquarie Towns - (80242)

DISCUSSION:

- Statements of Significance prepared by Professor Jack were distributed to the Committee.
- It was confirmed the intention of the proposed 'listing' was to create awareness of the grid layout of the town (as opposed to listing the whole towns as such) and suggestions were made as to the most appropriate measures to take to achieve the desired outcome.
- It was advised alternative mechanisms to "listing" could be put in place, such as design guidelines and Statements of Significance being included in the DCP.

Councillor Reardon left the meeting @ 6.40pm.

- Mr Owens advised the DCP does need to be rewritten to include heritage aspects and it was recollected Ms Penny Pike had previously worked on an addition to the DCP, in conjunction with the Committee, in the 1990's which may assist in this regard.

It was determined this matter be followed up by Mr Owens and a search of previous minutes be undertaken in an attempt to locate the additional information supplied by Ms Pike. Additionally, Ms Barkley-Jack advised she would make contact Ms Pike.

- Mr Owens referred to the Councillor Briefing and asked for speakers to be nominated as representatives on behalf the Committee. Mr Graham Edds and Professor Jack subsequently agreed to represent the Committee in this regard.
- The Chair suggested the Committee meet as a Sub-Committee to finalise details for the Councillor Briefing Session.
- The Chair made further suggestion that staff confer with the Heritage Office prior to the presentation to further discuss the proposal to 'list' the Macquarie Towns.

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE

That:

1. The Committee nominate the representatives to make the presentation to the Councillor Briefing.
2. A verbal update on the progress of preparations for the presentation be given to the Committee.
3. The Committee consider at least the list of issues contained in the report as well as any other matters that may arise and provide a comment on the Committee's position on those issues.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Professor Ian Jack, seconded by Ms Danielle Wheeler

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Director City Planning and the Heritage Advisory Committee continue investigations (including discussions with the Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning) leading up to the presentation as to suitable planning mechanisms in addition to listings.
2. A Sub-Committee be formed to finalise the approach to the presentation.

SECTION 4 - Reports for Information

Item: 2 Heritage Awareness and Interpretative Signage - (80242)

DISCUSSION:

- Ms Whiteley addressed the Committee and provided a PowerPoint presentation showing examples of best Local Government practice in public art and directional maps, signage and interpretive signage. The presentation also included a display of work undertaken (to date) by the Cultural Services Branch on external signage and mapping within the Cultural Precinct and VIC.
- It was reported the work being undertaken was to meet essential criteria for the Museum to be considered as a Level 3 Accreditation under the NSW Accredited Visitor Information Centre (AVIC) Network.
- It was advised Heritage Walks have been researched and identified as follows:
 - The Peninsula Precinct Heritage Walk
 - Windsor Mall Precinct Heritage Walk
 - McQuade Park Heritage Walk
 - Thompson Square Precinct Heritage Walk
- Heritage walks for Richmond would also be researched and developed in the future. In this regard Committee members advised they would like to assist Ms Whiteley with ideas, themes and suggestions for other areas for inclusion in her research. The Committee further expressed their desire to be involved in the construction of the wording for signage.

The Chair thanked Ms Whiteley for presenting the information and Ms Whiteley subsequently left the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That:

1. The Committee be provided with a presentation by the Manager Cultural Services in relation to the work being undertaken by the Cultural Services branch.
2. The Committee discuss options that may enhance this work to further the education and awareness of heritage in the Hawkesbury. Committee members to forward these options to the Director City Planning prior to the report on interpretative signs is brought to Council.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Ms Jan Barkley-Jack, seconded by Mr Jonathan Auld.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The Committee be provided with a presentation by the Manager Cultural Services in relation to the work being undertaken by the Cultural Services branch.
2. The Committee discuss options that may enhance this work to further the education and awareness of heritage in the Hawkesbury. Committee members to forward these options to the Director City Planning prior to the report on interpretative signs is brought to Council.
3. The Committee is available for assistance with research and writing for interactive signage and request that the text for the interpretative signage for historical purposes be peer reviewed by this Committee.

SECTION 5 - General Business

- The Chair referred to the Committee Constitution distributed at a previous meeting and asked for this to be discussed at the next meeting.
- Ms Hussein advised she had been contacted by a representative of Blue Mountains Council seeking information as to the Committee's structure, meeting procedure etc with a view to attending Hawkesbury City Council to observe a HAC meeting in progress. Mr Owens suggested this be discussed at the next meeting in conjunction with the discussion on the Constitution.
- Ms Hussein informed the Committee of a Development Forum to be held in Chambers on 12 February in which consultants have been invited to discuss the provision of urban design services to Council. It was reported the consultants would be used to provide direction on applications including major heritage proposals.
- Ms Hussein advised she would bring a report to the next Committee meeting relating to the Slab Barn Study.

The Meeting terminated @ 7.20pm.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

ORDINARY MEETING
Reports of Committees



ordinary
meeting

end of
business
paper

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