



Environment Committee

Date of meeting: 26 April 2022
Location: Council Chambers
Time: 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chambers, on 26 April 2022, commencing at 4:08pm.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Councillor Amanda Kotlash, Hawkesbury City Council (Chairperson)
Councillor Patrick Conolly Hawkesbury City Council (Mayor)
Councillor Jill Reardon, Hawkesbury City Council
Councillor Danielle Wheeler, Hawkesbury City Council

Apologies: Councillor Mary Lyons-Buckett

In Attendance: Mr Andrew Kearns, Hawkesbury City Council
Mr Justin Murphy, Hawkesbury City Council
Ms Linda Perrine, Hawkesbury City Council
Ms Charlotte Weaver, Hawkesbury City Council
Ms Suzanne Stuart, Hawkesbury City Council
Ms Tracey Easterbrook - Hawkesbury City Council
Ms Amy Birks, Minute Secretary - Hawkesbury City Council

Attendance Register of Environment Committee

Member	26/04/2022
Councillor Patrick Conolly (Mayor)	✓
Councillor Amanda Kotlash (Chairperson)	✓
Councillor Jill Reardon	✓
Councillor Mary Lyons-Buckett	A
Councillor Danielle Wheeler	✓

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

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mary Lyons-Buckett.

Clr Wheeler arrived at the meeting at 4:30pm.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interests made.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Conolly, seconded by Councillor Kotlash that the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 6 July 2021, be confirmed.

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SECTION 2 - Reports for Determination

Item: 1 **EC - Election of Chairperson - (79351, 151938)**

Directorate: General Manager

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That a Chairperson of the Environment Committee for the period from April 2022 to April 2023, be determined.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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

That a Chairperson of the Environment Committee for the period from April 2022 to April 2023, be determined.

For the Motion: Councillors Conolly, Kotlash, Reardon, and Wheeler.

Against the Motion: Nil.

Absent: Councillor Lyons-Buckett.

DISCUSSION:

The Manager Strategic Planning, Mr Andrew Kearns, called for nominations for the position of Chairperson. One nomination was received, being:

Councillor Amanda Kotlash	Nominated by Mayor, Councillor Conolly
	Seconded by Councillor Reardon

There being one nomination, Councillor Kotlash was elected as Chairperson of the Environment Committee from April 2022 to April 2023.

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Item: 2 **EC - Cool Burning Cultural Burning - (151938, 80093)**

Directorate: City Planning

Mr Brad Moore, Senior Land Services Officer Aboriginal Communities, Greater Sydney Local Land Services addressed the meeting and discussed the Local Land Services experience and learnings with respect to undertaking cultural burning with the Hawkesbury Local Government Area.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee recommend that:

1. Council refer this matter to the Hawkesbury Bushfire Management Committee, Local Land Services, Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire and Rescue to determine how Cool Burning practices may be implemented in partnership with Council.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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

That the Environment Committee recommend that:

1. Council refer this matter to the Hawkesbury Bushfire Management Committee, Local Land Services, Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire and Rescue to determine how Cool Burning practices may be implemented in partnership with Council.
2. Council work with Local Land Services and First Nations people to identify Council controlled land that should be managed by cultural burning and report back to the Environment Committee.

For the Motion: Councillors Conolly, Kotlash, Reardon and Wheeler.

Against the Motion: Nil.

Absent: Councillor Lyons-Buckett.

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Item: 3 **EC - Zero Litter to River - Community Consultation - (151938, 80093)**

Previous Item: 004, EC (13 April 2021)
 002, EC (6 July 2021)

Directorate: City Planning

Mr Roger Griffiths and Ms Matilda Julian addressed the committee, speaking for the recommendation in the business paper.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee:

1. Consider the submissions received from high schools and the community with respect to this matter.
2. Seek funding opportunities should new Commonwealth and/ or NSW State Government funding become available in the future.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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

That the Environment Committee:

Ask for further advice from staff on a number of matters, including:

1. Setting up clean up volunteers with hivi vests when collecting rubbish.
2. Provision of additional shelters and bins at Bilpin Oval.
3. Work with Blue Mountains City Council regarding rubbish bins at Mount Tomah.
4. Holding additional Clean up Australia Day events at specific locations throughout the year.
5. Advocate for an increase in return and earn vending machines within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area.
6. Undertaking Schools Clean Up Australia Day Events.
7. Explore the offer from Hawkesbury Environment Network to partner with schools in potential film making campaigns.
8. Explore drainage signage.
9. Council review its use of single use plastics, disposal of masks and partners with high schools to engage local businesses about avoiding the use of single use plastics as a trial.

For the Motion: Councillors Conolly, Kotlash, Reardon and Wheeler.

Against the Motion: Nil.

Absent: Councillor Lyons-Buckett.

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Item: 4 **EC - Hawkesbury City Council Electric Vehicle Scoping Paper- (151938, 80093)**

Previous Item: 4, EC (13 April 2021)
 2, EC (6 July 2021)

Directorate: City Planning

Mr William Sneddon addressed the Committee speaking for the recommendation in the business paper.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee recommend that:

1. Council adopt the Hawkesbury City Council Electric Vehicle Scoping Paper, whilst noting that staff are already working on projects that are addressing this transition within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area within current resources.
2. Council staff continue to review the opportunities available to transition Council fleet to electric vehicles.
3. Council staff consider public electric vehicle charging infrastructure as part of the Hawkesbury Town and Village Place Plans.
4. Council staff pursue opportunities that meet Council's requirements and resourcing capacity, to assist in the facilitation of this transition.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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

That the Environment Committee recommend that Council:

1. Adopt the Hawkesbury City Council Electric Vehicle Scoping Paper, whilst noting that staff are already working on projects that are addressing this transition within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area within current resources.
2. Council staff continue to review the opportunities available to transition Council fleet to electric vehicles.
3. Council staff consider public electric vehicle charging infrastructure as part of the Hawkesbury Town and Village Place Plans.
4. Council staff pursue opportunities that meet Council's requirements and resourcing capacity, to assist in the facilitation of this transition.

For the Motion: Councillors Conolly, Kotlash, Reardon and Wheeler.

Against the Motion: Nil.

Absent: Councillor Lyons-Buckett.

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Item: 5 **EC - Increasing Tree Canopy - (151938, 80093, 124414, 126363)**

Previous Item: 5 ESAC (10 December 2018)

Directorate: City Planning

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment Committee:

1. Recognise the number of the projects and opportunities already being undertaken and pursued by staff to increase tree canopy within the Hawkesbury local government area.
2. Recommend that Council staff continue to identify opportunities and/or partnerships to increase tree canopy cover within the Hawkesbury local government area in accordance with the actions identified within the adopted Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy, and existing resourcing capabilities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Wheeler, seconded by Councillor Conolly.

That the Environment Committee recommend that Council:

Be consulted before the brief for the Urban Forest Strategy has gone out to the market and that the brief include, provision for community engagement as part of the list of requirements to the preparation of this strategy.

For the Motion: Councillors Conolly, Kotlash, Reardon and Wheeler.

Against the Motion: Nil.

Absent: Councillor Lyons-Buckett.

The meeting terminated at 6:00 pm.



Environment Committee Meeting

End of Minutes

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