



MINUTES COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2017

COMMENCING AT 9.30AM

WARIALDA OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present:

Councillors: Cr. John Coulton (Mayor), Cr. Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr David Coulton (left the meeting at 10.15 am), Cr. Stuart Dick, Cr. Jim Moore, Cr Tiffany Galvin and Cr Frances Young.

Staff: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Leeah Daley (Deputy General Manager), Richard Jane (Director Technical Services), Ron Wood (Chief Financial Officer) and Glen Pereira (Director Development and Environmental Services)

Public: Ms L Carroll (*Warialda Standard*)

Visitor: Nil

This is page number 1 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

DISCLAIMER

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Gwydir Shire Council for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during and Council or Committee meetings.

The Council disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings.

Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or Committee meeting does so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or intimation of approval made by any member or officer of the Council during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Council.

Gwydir Shire Council wishes to advise that any plans or documents contained within this agenda may be subject to copyright law provisions and that the express permission of the copyright owner(s) should be sought prior to their reproduction.

Members of the public should note that no action should be taken on any item discussed at a Council or Committee meeting prior to written advice on the resolution of council being received.

Agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website
<http://www.gwydirshire.com/>

OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME – MAYOR

APOLOGIES Cr Geoff Smith and Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM

RESOLVED:

THAT the apologies of Cr Geoff Smith and Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM are accepted.

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Egan)

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the previous Community Services and Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 10 November 2016 as circulated be taken as read and **CONFIRMED**.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Young)

PRESENTATION - Nil

CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Crs Young and J Coulton declared a less than significant pecuniary interest in Item 5 *Monthly Report - Development and Environmental Services - November/December 2016* under the Local Government Act as staff report noted that they had each lodged a Development Application.

Cr Dick declared a less than significant pecuniary interest in the Councillor Workshop item to be discussed in the Confidential Agenda as a landowner in the vicinity of the Yammacoona Sand Quarry proposal.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RESOLVED:

THAT the Council resolve into Confidential Session, Committee of the Whole and that in the public interest and in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the public and press be excluded from the meeting to consider the items listed on the agenda.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Young)

This is page number 3 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

**ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL
SESSION**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the recommendations of the Confidential Session, namely:

**Confidential Organisation and Community Development Report -
December 2016**

**THAT the Organisation and Community Development
confidential report for December 2016 and January 2017 be
received**

Minutes Councillor Workshop - 12th January 2017

**THAT the Minutes of the Councillor Workshop held on 12th
January 2017 for staff action as appropriate.**

are adopted.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Young)

Item 1 Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held on 25th January 2017 Minutes

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 2. Building the business base

OUTCOME: 2.1 OUR ECONOMY IS GROWING AND SUPPORTED

**STRATEGY: 2.1.2 Support the growth of our business community -
OCD - external**

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 25 January 2017

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

This report is for the notation of the minutes of the Circular Economy Management Committee meetings held on 13th December 2016 and 25th January 2017.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Circular Economy Management Committee held on 13th December 2017 and 25th January 2017 be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Minutes

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the minutes of the Circular Economy Management Committee held on 13th December 2017 and 25th January 2017 be received and noted.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Young)



**MINUTES OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY 2017
COMMENCING 1 PM**

Committee Delegation (Resolved 26th May 2016)

Pursuant to Section 377 and 379 of the Local Government Act, 1993, as amended, and subject to the limitations and stipulations which the said Sections 377 and 379 impose, the power to resolve upon any matter submitted for consideration concerning the future planning and management of the Circular Economy be delegated.

Present

Elected Committee Members	Cr J Coulton (Chair), Cr G Smith, Cr C Egan and Cr F Young
Councillor Observers	Cr D Coulton and Cr M Dixon
Non-elected Members	M Eastcott, G Pereira, D Thain and K Davey

Apologies Cr Moore, Cr Galvin, T Greensill and G Christopherson

Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes

25th January 2017

- Item 1 Adoption of Minutes from the meeting held on 13th
December 2016 - attached

RESOLVED:

**THAT the Minutes of the previous Circular Economy
Management Committee held on 13 December 2016 as
circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.**

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Smith)

- Item 2 Behind the Meter Proposal

BACKGROUND

Gwydir Shire Council has been in negotiation with Zen Energy to design and install a Solar PV and Battery Storage system for The Living Classroom complex. The Zen system will include 3 phase power capacity.

The rationale behind this request was to install a product to provide a 'real time' educationally orientated system to showcase not just the benefits of renewable energy but to provide a facility to allow Gwydir to be the established hub of Solar PV and Battery Storage energy within the region.

This facility compliments The Behind the Metre and Energy Efficiency Model currently being developed by University of Technology/Institute for Sustainable Futures (UTS/ISF) in collaboration with Zen Energy and Gwydir Shire.

The installation of the solar/storage system will allow The Living Classroom to be used for much more than the training of installation technicians.

The continuing implementation of The Behind the Meter Scheme will require a comprehensive public awareness programme for residents and business owners. This will be able to include a level of sophistication to suit the individual needs and involve both day time and overnight seminars and workshops. Technical staff from both Zen and UTS/ISF will be available to provide the training.

As the regional hub for Solar/Storage energy, Gwydir will also be able to host training and information courses for individuals and organisations from outside of our Shire throughout the Namoi JO area and BROOC. This will create a definite marketing opportunity.

The level of support from Zen Energy is evidenced by the current discussions held with Professor Ross Garnaut (Chair Zen Energy).

There is apparently some concern regarding advancing the current proposal, which is outlined below:

Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes

25th January 2017

CURRENT PROPOSAL

Scope

The Living Classroom is an agricultural research and education centre in the township of Bingara, NSW. One of the goals of The Living Classroom is to act as a demonstration site for a sustainable 'closed loop' micro-community – entirely self-sufficient in food and water, with all compostable waste recycled back to the site. Energy is a critical consideration in a sustainable community, and in September 2016 the Gwydir Shire Council (Council) approached ZEN Energy (ZEN) to develop a fully integrated energy storage system to demonstrate energy self-sufficiency at The Living Classroom.

Requirements

The site is characterised by sporadic occupation. The average daily use summarized on the site's power bills reflects non-continuous usage averaged out over the billing period. ZEN have inferred an approximate daily demand in the range of 35-50kWh when classes are taught and the bunkhouse is occupied overnight.

The Living Classroom aims to explore a range of energy education activities through immersive student experiences, such as planning a rationed energy budget, simulated grid disconnection, and real-time energy budget management from daylight into evening hours. Students will be able to enhance their energy awareness by taking steps to maximise solar self-consumption, and visualize the real-time effects of load switching and shifting.

Solution overview

ZEN's base proposal incorporates 7.8kW of Tier 1 JA Solar 260W PV panels mounted on the bunkhouse roof, combined with 68kWh of Sonnenschein batteries (nameplate capacity) providing 20kWh of *useable storage capacity* at 30% depth of discharge. ZEN recommend a depth of discharge no greater than 30% to optimize the trade-off between capital cost and prolonged operational life. ZEN have selected Sonnenschein - a premium lead-gel battery with proven performance in harsh Australian conditions, fit for purpose for an institutional client. ZEN have also selected Selectronic inverters which, in reputation and proven performance, are the leading off-grid-capable, locally manufactured battery inverter/chargers.

The native package above comes with basic inbuilt monitoring functionality, however this is primarily to facilitate fault diagnosis. For an educational demonstration site such as the Living Classroom, ZEN have opted to include a third party monitoring platform to provide visibility of solar generation and electrical loads across three phases.

***Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC***

**Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes**

25th January 2017

The platform is compatible with smart phone, tablet, laptop or large screen display for demonstration and teaching purposes.

Examples of possible teaching scenarios supported by the proposed system are included on the following page, and a sample of the Enertech monitoring platform can be found here:

<http://powertime.com.au/live/?SiteId=1004>

Subject to the assumptions listed on the final page of this document, the price for the proposed solar PV + storage system is **\$101,315.00 – exclusive of GST, fully installed.**

Expected System Performance and Example Education Scenarios

The proposed system incorporates 7.8kW of solar PV which will nominally generate 16kWh on a typical winter day and 30-40kWh during summer - this size is appropriate to enable students to explore and learn about solar penetration and energy management. For example, under a simulated grid disconnection scenario, a summer class showing up at 9:00 AM would be required to manage their daytime load to ensure sufficient surplus solar generation to fill the batteries to provide power in the evening. After the sun goes down, they would then be required to manage their evening demand until lights out, or until the batteries are depleted (whichever comes first). With proactive energy management, the proposed system should provide sufficient power to get students to lights out.

ZEN have sized for 18kWh of useable energy storage – which represents appropriate storage capacity to permit meaningful education scenarios. As an example, the bunkhouse would have a typical evening load ranging from 10-25kWh – primarily a function of how many A/C split systems are running. Students will quickly learn that by using A/C conservatively they can stay cool all evening – however if they are wasteful with their energy budget during early evening, then they may have to go without climate control for a portion of the night.

In summer during classes, the solar array will produce sufficient energy to run daytime loads and to charge up the battery. Since this is a grid-connected facility, batteries can be topped up several days ahead depending on the kind of educational scenario an instructor wishes to run. During winter classes the solar array may not produce enough to cover daytime load, but again the batteries can be programmed to top up from the grid depending on teaching requirements.

During non-class time, solar will displace daytime load and provide savings to the Living Classroom. These savings can be quantified and monitored for educational purposes using the proposed monitoring platform.

Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes

25th January 2017

Expansion Pathway – additional PV

The system described above is appropriate based on usage information provided to ZEN, however Council have suggested that in future the site will be used more frequently. If required, additional PV can be installed on the roof of the machinery shed to displace a greater portion of the site's daytime load, or to charge the battery in the absence of local demand. ZEN have included a second proposal for an additional 8.8kW, which can be added now or at any time in the future to support expanded use of The Living Classroom site and facilities. Subject to the assumptions listed on the following page, the price for the additional 8.8kW PV system is **\$12,446.00 - inclusive of GST, fully installed.**

Underlying Assumptions

The proposal outlined above has been priced based on a number of underlying assumptions, and by necessity involves interactions between ZEN, the customer, and third parties.

These assumptions are reasonable and necessary to provide a definitive costing at this time - ZEN reserves the right to revise the costing provided, in the event that any of these assumptions do not hold true.

Assumptions include:

- *Installation of the PV component undertaken by Mike Hayes (subject to acceptance of ZEN's standard installer agreement) prior to the arrival of ZEN's storage technician. Mike has provided verbal acceptance, and we will seek formal confirmation if Council elects to proceed with the project. A budget cost has been allowed for the solar installation, to be converted to lump sum upon consideration of site constraints and contractual engagement of Mike Hayes.*
- *ZEN to apply for Connection Approval from Essential Energy, with Mike Hayes providing local support as required. Proposal assumes no additional network protection unit is required by Essential Energy.*
- *Proposed system to be integrated with existing network infrastructure on-site.*
- *Customer to prepare an appropriate location to install the battery storage container on the south side of the machinery shed. Prepared site must comprise level and stable ground with appropriate drainage suitable to load bear the container, ideally protected from direct exposure to the sun.*

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

**Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes**

25th January 2017

- *Customer to assume responsibility for unloading the storage container via flatbed crane, and installation in final location in advance of ZEN storage technician arrival.*
- *PV inverters to be installed on the south side of the bunkhouse, and connected to the storage container via underground A/C cabling installed via trenching work – an allowance for trenching work has been included in the proposal, and assumes normal ground conditions.*
- *The proposed Enertech monitoring package which has been in alpha test for the past 12 months, and will shortly be released to market. Depending on installation timelines, and assuming agreement from Enertech, ZEN proposes to install the alpha version at Living Classroom in the first instance to expedite system deployment, with software upgrades to follow from Enertech as necessary when full market release occurs.*

Gwydir Shire Council has received the contract from Zen and verbally committed to the project. The \$20,000.00 deposit is required for payment prior to Zen dispatching the container which will house the system. The remaining funds are due for payment once the installation is complete and operational.

The funding for this proposal is being sourced from the sale of the former Lowes Service Station.

CONCERNS

The all Councillor workshop held on 12th January 2017 noted the following comment:

Electrical Training Initiative – recommended that a full report on the proposed training of electricians by Zen Energy (as part of the Behind the Meter Scheme) at the Living Classroom be forwarded to the Council for consideration.

There has been some issues raised that would benefit from a face to face meeting with the Board and Executive of Zen Energy to enhance the forward momentum of this project.

Gwydir staff have been in communication with both Mr Richard Turner (Founder / Director of Innovation Zen Energy) and Professor Ross Garnaut (Board Chair Zen Energy). These discussions have been very positive and productive. Emailed correspondence is attached for your information.

The areas that would benefit from further discussion revolve around the following matters:

Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes

25th January 2017

- o Design a package of PV, battery storage and energy management systems to serve domestic installations covering a broad range of energy consumption patterns
- o Undertake economic analyses of these packages against a 20 year financing source
- o Develop a practical and implementable project delivery model inclusive of a local training and demonstration facility
- o Proactively liaise with both Ergon Energy and Essential Energy to address any and all grid issues that may impede a large scale, high penetration rollout
- o Maximised self-consumption with minimised grid export
- o An Australianised, client friendly interface that is applicable to the demographic
- o A grid export management capability that will effectively deal with all grid issues, real or perceived, that the grid operators **will use** as an impediment to a large scale, high penetration rollout
- o A package of 'bankable' warranties and life time operational support that will support the risk mitigation concerns of the clients and a conservative 20 year finance provider
- o A delivery model that is client focused and extracts the best outcomes for the client from the 20 year financing (minimise energy costs to maximise disposable income for use within the Circular Economy)
- o A client interface strategy and toolbox that can be simply applied to sell the benefits of this scheme to the client and the community
- o The delivery model that leverages off the inherent strengths, stability and security of Local Government
- o A delivery model that is aligned to the Rates system and that is transferable with the sale of the property

Also, more recently, the Counsultant working with the Council has initiated discussions with SunPower. SunPower are a Melbourne based firm and considered to be the global manufacturer of the world's best PV panels. SunPower has given an indication that it may be prepared to provide the required panels for The Living Classroom for free but there may be conditions when further discussions are held.

Although Zen Energy would be happy to source the SunPower panels they do, however, have some concern about the cost-benefit outcome from using this product, which is quite expensive, and any forward commitment to solely use SunPower panels.

With regard to inter-relationship with the electricity grid this is being investigated by the work being undertaken by UTS/ISF in partnership with Zen Energy.

**Circular Economy Management Committee
Minutes**

25th January 2017

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Director Development and Environmental Services meet with the Board Chair and Executive staff of Zen Energy to finalise the negotiations on the development of a Regional Hub of Solar PV and Battery Storage energy within Gwydir Shire as a component of the Behind the Meter Scheme proposal.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Director Development and Environmental Services meet with the Board Chair and Executive staff of Zen Energy to finalise the negotiations on the development of a Regional Hub of Solar PV and Battery Storage energy within Gwydir Shire as a component of the Behind the Meter Scheme proposal.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Smith)

Item 3 NSW Advanced Energy Challenge: Energy Storage

The members discussed the request from Zen Energy to participate in the above NSW Government initiative – details attached.

Applications close on 3rd February 2017.

RESOLVED:

THAT Gwydir Shire Council partner with Zen Energy in its application to the Department of Industry, Resources & Energy for participation under the *NSW Advanced Energy Challenge: Energy Storage* scheme.

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Egan)

Meeting closed 2.47 pm



Minutes from the Circular Economy Committee meeting held on 13th December 2016

Present:

Councillors: Cr. John Coulton (Mayor), Cr. Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Jim Moore, Cr. Geoff Smith, and Cr Frances Young.

Staff: Glen Pereira (Director Development and Environmental Services)

Consultants: Johann Havenga (Teleo Projects Pty Ltd), Ken Davey, Mairead Hawes, Godfrey Dol (Green Camel)

Apologies: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Duncan Thain (Manager Circular Economy)

Consultants' Presentation

The Consultants gave an update on the development of the Greenhouse which covered

- Land feasibility and procurement update
- Requirements for organic certification[GD]
- Glasshouse requirements
- DA requirements

A general discussion took place with a number of questions asked by Councillors and answered by the Consultants, staff and the Mayor.

A Steering Session was then held to look at the next steps to be taken and review Consultant deliverables including:

- Early approval for three (3) studies [Fauna and flora, contamination and survey]
- Perfection Fresh workshop [Engagement management plan]
- Facilitate MOU Perfection Fresh / Green Camel /Gwydir [High-level agreement and intent]
- Briefs to remaining consultants and RFQs [Update]

- Detail timeline for DA lodgement and costing
- Phase 2 commencement [Update and feedback]
 - Engage consultants
 - Community and state agency consultation
 - Pre DA meeting with council
 - Documentation for lodgement
 - DA Lodgement
- Interface to wider circular economy

A copy of the Consultants' presentation provides additional information.

General agreement was reached in line with the terms of engagement to continue with current planned work and timelines.

In particular:

- Council would like to investigate options of potentially owning or keeping a piece of the business in the long run. This is the intent but needs to be further developed.
- Council approved Johann Havenga to proceed with MOU between PF/Council and Green Camel
- Due to financial constraints consultants will push for Perfection Fresh to co-contribute to the DA
- Council agreed that Johann Havenga with Godfrey will be the main interface with Perfection Fresh.
- Council agreed to continue with workshop and berry farm visit as per Michael's (Perfection Fresh) recommendation.



This is page number 16 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

- Steering update - Agenda
- Land feasibility update [MH]
 - Project overview
 - Council feedback
 - Requirements for organic certification [GD]
 - Overview of process involved
 - Council feedback
 - Glasshouse requirements [GD]
 - Design Specifications
 - Crop Production
 - Aquaculture
 - DA requirements [JH]
 - Phase approach
 - DA Components
 - Site Survey
 - Contamination
 - Fauna and Flora

Land feasibility update



This is page number 18 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

Land feasibility update

- Land zoning & applicable development controls allow for proposed development under a DA.
- Agency involvement would include NSW RFS, NSW Office of water, NSW Office of Environment & Heritage.
- Key issues to be addressed early include:
 - Flora & Fauna
 - Contamination
 - Detailed site survey
- Site is deemed capable of being made suitable for its intended use.

Requirements for organic certification

- **Time -line for organic certification**
 - One year for "In Conversion Organics"
 - Three (one plus two) years for "Organic"
 - Minimum time period for certification is 6 to 12 months
 - Additions of contraband materials to site will delay or reset the time period
- **Operator applying for certification**
 - Already certified operators will find it easier to have certified organics granted to them.
 - Certification is not transferable to other operators
 - New operators will have to apply as new applicants.
 - Strategy: May require a holding company

Requirements for organic certification

• **Location**

- Organic certification can be granted to a whole farm or parts of a farm
- No part of the circular economy balance of plant can be co-located on the same certified area as of the registered organic farm.
- 5% of total area must be left to grow wild to protect flora and fauna and biodiversity.
- Does the land have any primary forest (4.6.9)?

• **Inputs affecting registration**

- Product inputs must be organically certified and free of chemicals
Registration will be delays if GMO's have been used in the past (this will take 5 years)
- Obtain spray records of the land in question including weed killer (12 month disqualification)
- Water must be food safe

Requirements for organic certification

• **Outputs**

- Water is allowed to leave the premises but only with the same amount of salts as it came in at.

Requirements for organic certification

Table 4.7a Guidelines for maximum levels of heavy metals
(note regional EPA and state departments of agriculture requirements)

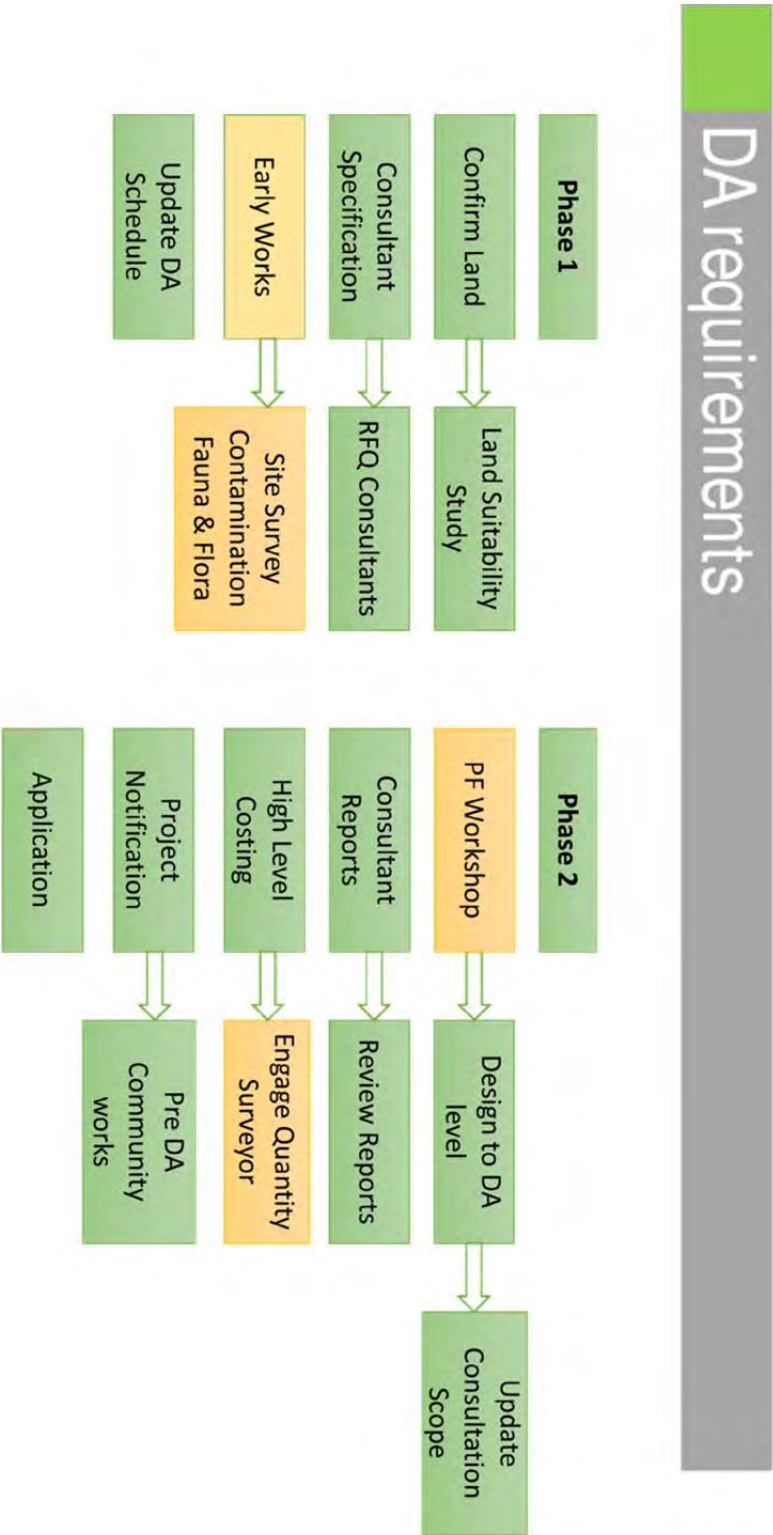
	In the soil (ppm – mg/kg)	In manures & fertilisers
Arsenic (As)	5	20
Cadmium (Cd)	5	3-5
Chromium (Cr)	150	250
Copper (Cu)	50	375
Lead (Pb)	100	150
Mercury (Hg)	1	4
Nickel (Ni)	50	125
Zinc (Zn)	100	700

Glasshouse requirements – PF Update

- Crop selection
 - PF fresh indicated that a mix of three crops would be produced in the glasshouse. These are:
 - Vine Crops (Tomato)
 - Leafy greens
 - Berries
 - This requires 3 different setups:
 - Modular Air
 - Moving Gully
 - Berry (Installation TBD)
 - Michael Simonetta recommended project team to visit one of the PF berry operations to assess the requirements for DA purposes

Glasshouse requirements – PF Update

- Organic certification
 - This is a must have requirement
 - PF is very keen on the Green Camel solution
 - DA should incorporate organic components or placeholders from inception
- Phased approach
 - A phased approach as it is in line with PF business models
- Next actions
 - Michael Simonetta recommended project kick-off between PF and Project team in new year to refine and define specific needs for the design.
 - Michael Simonetta wants key members of his team to be involved for alignment of business models and value proposition



Next steps, Strategy and Deliverables

- Early approval for 3 studies [Flora and fauna, contamination & survey]
- Perfection Fresh workshop [Engagement management plan]
- Facilitate MOU PF/GC/Gwydir [High-level agreement and intent]
- Detail timeline for DA lodgement and costing [Team actions required]
- Phase 1 Conclude end Feb 2017
- Phase 2 commencement [Update and feedback]
 - Engage consultants
 - Community and state agency consultation
 - Pre DA meeting with council
 - Documentation for lodgement
 - DA Lodgement
- Interface to wider circular economy [Update and feedback]

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

Max Eastcott

From: Duncan Thain
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Max Eastcott; Cr John Coulton; Glen Pereira
Subject: FW: The Living Classroom Solar PV + Battery Storage System

This response from Richard is excellent news, don't you think! I believe we are now well placed for the BTM scheme and the energy requirements for the glasshouse project. In terms of the contract with Zen for the Classroom solar project, do you think Council will allow for the deposit to be paid asap so that we can progress?
Any news on exchange of contracts for the service station?

Duncan Thain

Project Manager, Circular Economy
Gwydir Shire Council

Telephone 02 6724 2005
Mobile 0400 450 220.
dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

From: Richard Turner [<mailto:RTurner@zenenergy.com.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 19 January 2017 2:27 PM
To: Duncan Thain
Cc: Max Eastcott; Cr John Coulton; Glen Pereira
Subject: Re: The Living Classroom Solar PV + Battery Storage System

Hi Duncan,

Ross Garnaut and our other Directors are working on just that for you with significant investment from both the State and Federal Governments well beyond what ZEN could contribute as a private business.

The program needs to be defined and hopefully expanded to a much larger program covering your industrial and commercial business as well as the community. Once we have clarity on exactly what the program is then ZEN can separately consider support in its own right.

Regards

Richard Turner
Founder / Director of Innovation
ZEN Energy

Sustainable Industries Education Centre
Level 2, TAFE SA Building (Tonsley)
[1284 South Road](#)
[Clovelly Park SA 5042](#)

T [+61 8 8211 0600](tel:+61882110600) M [+61 418 844 780](tel:+61418844780)
E RTurner@zenenergy.com.au W www.zenenergy.com.au

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

Disclaimer

"This e-mail and any attachments to it (the "Communication") is, unless otherwise stated, confidential, may contain copyright material and is for the use only of the intended recipient. If you receive the Communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail, delete the Communication and the return e-mail, and do not read, copy, retransmit or otherwise deal with it. Any views expressed in the Communication are those of the individual sender only, unless expressly stated to be those of ZEN Technologies (Power and Energy) Pty Ltd ABN [82 110 224 005](#), or any of its related entities including ZEN Home Energy Systems or ZEN Commercial Energy Systems (together "ZEN"). ZEN does not accept liability in connection with the integrity of or errors in the Communication, computer virus, data corruption, interference or delay arising from or in respect of the Communication."

On 19 Jan 2017, at 1:18 pm, Duncan Thain <dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au> wrote:

Dear Richard,

Our new Council met last week to discuss the most recent Fit for the Future criteria, imposed on Gwydir Shire Council. While Council remain positive and have confidence that we will be finally declared 'Fit for the Future', this latest request for further explanation has prompted a review of expenditure in all existing projects.

Yesterday, I completed a detailed report of The Living Classroom Project, for the General Manager, explaining the rationale for the establishment of an educational hub for Solar/Storage within our region. Further, I included the current very positive dialogue with Ross Garnaut, which has been initiated by you on our behalf. The GM will table this report at the next meeting.

The Living Classroom Project has strong support from the GM and the Mayor but in these difficult financial times the level of expenditure on this project is, along with other projects, being reviewed.

Recognising that Zen Energy has much to gain from its future involvement in Gwydir Shire and the larger geographical region, we request that Zen consider some financial investment in the Gwydir BTM Scheme.

We wish to recognise the generosity of time and expertise that has been afforded our BTM Scheme, but respectfully request consideration of financial investment in this most worthwhile project.

Regards
Duncan

Duncan Thain

Project Manager, Circular Economy
Gwydir Shire Council

Telephone 02 6724 2005
Mobile 0400 450 220.
dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au.

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

Max Eastcott

From: Duncan Thain
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 8:37 AM
To: Ross Garnaut
Cc: Max Eastcott; Glen Pereira; Cr John Coulton; Ken Davey
Subject: RE: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Good morning Ross,

Thank you for the feedback, it all sounds very promising. We, of course, will be keen to work with Zen to provide any material to support your proposal. Yesterday I touched on our glasshouse Project. One of the challenges facing our group, in preparation for providing energy, is the supply of CO2 suitable for a glasshouse environment. I am aware that the CSRIO has done some work with the coal industry in Qld, but there is still a good deal of R & D required for our type of project, which as you know involves the construction of a biogas or perhaps a biomass, plant.

In terms of our Behind the Metre Scheme, this project in its current form, will become impossible without access to finance. We are hopeful that long term TCorp finance will be available to us.

We look forward to working with your team.

Regards

Duncan

Duncan Thain

Project Manager, Circular Economy
Gwydir Shire Council

Telephone 02 6724 2005
Mobile 0400 450 220.
dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

From: Ross Garnaut [<mailto:ross.garnaut@zenenergy.com.au>]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2017 11:19 PM
To: Duncan Thain; Richard Turner; vance.gledhill@gmail.com
Cc: Annabel Gebbie; Tim O'Loughlin
Subject: Re: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Duncan

Our meeting this afternoon with the Deputy Premier and with a representative of the Industry Minister present went very well. We mentioned our work with Gwydir as well as with Councils in southern NSW.

We have been encouraged to put in a proposal for the Advanced Energy Challenge administered by the Industry Department. If successful, this would be helpful in facilitating funding through existing nsw programmes (climate change and jobs); in regulatory including network pricing reform, and access to nsw government facilities as a market for renewable energy produced through our work in Gwydir. The first stage of the Challenge has a focus on storage, but it will not be difficult to give a prominent place to electricity storage in our proposal. We will be in touch over the next week about material for the application.

As I mentioned to you today, we will also be seeking support from Commonwealth programmes

All the best

Ross

From: Duncan Thain <dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 11:57:02 AM
To: Ross Garnaut; vance.gledhill@gmail.com
Subject: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Good morning Ross,
Thank you for taking the time to contact me this morning and for the support of our proposed model, attached. This model is being developed as a collaborative project and involves Zen, UTS/ISF, and Gwydir Shire.
Regards

Duncan Thain
Project Manager, Circular Economy
Gwydir Shire Council

Telephone 02 6724 2005
Mobile 0400 450 220.
dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au.

-----Safe Stamp-----
Your Anti-virus Service scanned this email. It is safe from known viruses.
For more information regarding this service, please contact your service provider.

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

Max Eastcott

From: Ross Garnaut <ross.garnaut@zenenergy.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2017 11:01 PM
To: Duncan Thain
Cc: Max Eastcott; Glen Pereira; Cr John Coulton; Ken Davey; Tim O'Loughlin; Richard Turner; Vance Gledhill; Annabel Gebbie
Subject: Re: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Duncan

Thanks for the background on the bio-energy project, and the need for CO2. Ken Davey has also sent me material on biogas and related agricultural development matters. (Ken: this note responds to material in your email, as well as to material in Duncan's).

Our immediate focus is on a proposal for the NSW Department New Energy Challenge, which we discussed with the Deputy Premier plus the Industry Minister's Director of Policy last Wednesday in Sydney, and which is due by February 3. ZEN is working on a proposal with southern NSW Councils ("RAMROC"), and, if the Council agrees, our work with Gwydir would fit very well as a separate project within the proposal.

ZEN's proposal for energy development in NSW rural and provincial areas, based on Councils, has the following elements:

1. Develop a core of medium scale renewable energy and storage in one location within the Council area, preferably alongside a major energy user that can be supplied behind the meter, and adjacent to an industrial estate where other businesses can be supplied behind the meter. The core will have substantial solarPV, which can be supplied at much lower average cost than wholesale gas or coal electricity, which becomes a small fraction of total cost of gas or coal power if it can be supplied behind the meter. The solarPV would be supplemented by whatever other renewables make economic sense in the local area. We are confident that the cost of power would become a major competitive advantage for local energy-using industries. In Gwydir's case, the additional renewables would be biogas first of all. The availability of biogas, which can be stored at low cost to meet overnight requirements, will reduce other storage requirements.
2. This core energy generation facility would also supply the Council and the State Government requirements in the area through the grid. It would also seek clients amongst other larger local users of power (using the ZEN retail licence, which is expected in march 2017). The New Energy Challenge would facilitate access to the State Government market.
3. Work with the state Government to achieve efficiency-raising reform of network pricing, to facilitate transfers of power between deficit and surplus locations within the Council area.
4. Work with the Council to encourage small businesses and households to adopt economically efficient levels of solarPV and battery storage at their own premises.
5. If the Council wishes to do so, work with the Council to develop a cooperative business arrangement for delivery of power to households and businesses in the Council area.
6. Sell surplus power from the region into the State grid at times that give the highest value possible.

The overall impact of the ZEN proposal would be to substantially lower the cost of power to all users in the Council area, and especially to those adjacent to the industrial area; to gradually lower the cost of using the network in the Council area through use of decentralised generation and storage to reduce peak demand and pass the gains back to users through network pricing reform; to increase local economic activity and jobs through turning the region from an electricity importer into an electricity exporter; and to increase local

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

economic activity and jobs through access to low-cost power. It would fit very well alongside the Council's plans for intensive agricultural development.

ZEN could take responsibility for funding the energy parts of the programme and provide support for seeking funding in the agricultural and other non-energy activities. Success in the New Energy Challenge would facilitate access to State Government Rural Jobs and Climate Change Programmes for energy investment. It may help access to Treasury funding for other development expenditure, We would work with the Council to seek Commonwealth funding for the agricultural and other non-energy parts of the development activities in which ZEN was not directly involved. On the CO2 requirement and opportunity, there would be some chance that standard technology would be available to extract it from the methane combustion in power generation, but I am not personally familiar with the processes.

We could talk more about this and your own development activities in a telephone call later in the week, at a time that suits you. Some time Tuesday afternoon would work for us, and we would try to find another time if that doesn't work for you.

With best wishes.
Ross

From: Duncan Thain <dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 19 January 2017 8:37 AM
To: Ross Garnaut
Cc: Max Eastcott; Glen Pereira; Cr John Coulton; Ken Davey
Subject: RE: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Good morning Ross,
Thank you for the feedback, it all sounds very promising. We, of course, will be keen to work with Zen to provide any material to support your proposal. Yesterday I touched on our glasshouse Project. One of the challenges facing our group, in preparation for providing energy, is the supply of CO2 suitable for a glasshouse environment. I am aware that the CSRIO has done some work with the coal industry in Qld, but there is still a good deal of R & D required for our type of project, which as you know involves the construction of a biogas or perhaps a biomass, plant.
In terms of our Behind the Meter Scheme, this project in its current form, will become impossible without access to finance. We are hopeful that long term TCorp finance will be available to us.
We look forward to working with your team.
Regards
Duncan

Duncan Thain
Project Manager, Circular Economy
Gwydir Shire Council

Telephone 02 6724 2005
Mobile 0400 450 220.
dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au.

From: Ross Garnaut [mailto:ross.garnaut@zenenergy.com.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2017 11:19 PM

**Circular Economy Management Committee meeting held
on 25th January 2017 Minutes.DOC**

To: Duncan Thain; Richard Turner; vance.gledhill@gmail.com
Cc: Annabel Gebbie; Tim O'Loughlin
Subject: Re: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Duncan

Our meeting this afternoon with the Deputy Premier and with a representative of the Industry Minister present went very well. We mentioned our work with Gwydir as well as with Councils in southern NSW.

We have been encouraged to put in a proposal for the Advanced Energy Challenge administered by the Industry Department. If successful, this would be helpful in facilitating funding through existing nsw programmes (climate change and jobs); in regulatory including network pricing reform, and access to nsw government facilities as a market for renewable energy produced through our work in Gwydir. The first stage of the Challenge has a focus on storage, but it will not be difficult to give a prominent place to electricity storage in our proposal. We will be in touch over the next week about material for the application.

As I mentioned to you today, we will also be seeking support from Commonwealth programmes

All the best

Ross

From: Duncan Thain <dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 11:57:02 AM
To: Ross Garnaut; vance.gledhill@gmail.com
Subject: Gwydir Shire Council Behind the Metre Scheme

Good morning Ross,

Thank you for taking the time to contact me this morning and for the support of our proposed model, attached. This model is being developed as a collaborative project and involves Zen, UTS/ISF, and Gwydir Shire.

Regards

Duncan Thain

Project Manager, Circular Economy
Gwydir Shire Council

Telephone 02 6724 2005
Mobile 0400 450 220.
dthain@gwydir.nsw.gov.au.

-----Safe Stamp-----

Your Anti-virus Service scanned this email. It is safe from known viruses.

For more information regarding this service, please contact your service provider.

-----Safe Stamp-----

Your Anti-virus Service scanned this email. It is safe from known viruses.

For more information regarding this service, please contact your service provider.

GWYDIR REFERENCES IN ZEN ADVANCED ENERGY CHALLENGE

ZEN Energy is working with Gwydir Council to make the Gwydir Council area a centre of innovation in energy generation and distribution, of low cost energy for households and business, of investment in agribusiness and other energy-intensive economic activity, and a net exporter of energy to the National Electricity Market. This cooperation between ZEN and Gwydir is covered by ZEN's proposal within the NSW Advanced Energy Challenge.

The cooperation will have the following elements:

- (i) ZEN and the Council will establish a hub for renewable energy and storage adjacent to an area selected by Council for intensive organic food production and poultry processing. Solar PV, biogas and battery storage will provide renewable baseload energy for local use, and capacity to dispatch surplus power to the National Electricity market when power is scarce and valuable. The renewable energy hub will supply adjacent agribusiness and other energy-intensive industry behind the meter, and meet Council, State Government, and commercial and household demand through the distribution network. ZEN will take responsibility for utilising solar PV and biogas power generation opportunities within the hub in ways that secure low cost power for adjacent users and remunerative returns for sale of surplus energy outside the hub.
- (ii) ZEN and the Council will work with the State Government and, through the State Government, Essential Energy, to reform the pricing of access to the local electricity distribution network, in ways that facilitate efficient local exchange of energy amongst generators and users of power. The reform will minimise costs of the network, by utilising the established network more fully, and by reducing the need for future investment by utilising behind the meter solar PV generation and battery storage to reduce peak demand in areas where the utilisation of the grid is approaching peak capacity.
- (iii) ZEN and the Council will cooperate in delivering the Gwydir Council's "Behind the Meter Community Solar Model" to households and businesses, utilising solar PV and battery storage.
- (iv) ZEN is in the process of obtaining a retail licence, and will utilise that licence for providing renewable energy generated within the Council area for business and household use. ZEN and the Council will discuss and agree on a model for Council-ZEN cooperation in retail sale of power.
- (v) Zen Energy and Gwydir Council will seek the following support from the State Government within the Advanced Energy Council
 - financial support within the NSW Jobs and Climate Change programmes to prepare for establishment of the renewable energy hub and the Community Solar Model.
 - cooperation in design and implementation of reform of local network pricing.
 - opportunities to supply locally generated electricity to NSW Government facilities within the Council area, and if possible beyond.
- (vi) ZEN Energy will support Gwydir Council in seeking funding under the Commonwealth Government's regional development programmes and the NSW Government's Jobs Programme for establishment of the proposed intensive agriculture (greenhouse) and poultry production and processing industries within the Shire.



NSW Advanced Energy Challenge: Energy Storage

The Advanced Energy (AE) Challenge is a public call for proposals that progress the Government's drive for an Advanced Energy State and that require a Government partnership to succeed.

The scheme offers in-kind government support for the best few proposals that demonstrate transformative benefits to the State, its businesses and citizens.

The objectives of the AE Challenge are:

1. To support to market the best new technologies or business models that advance our energy systems and markets.
2. To provide a transparent and efficient process to prioritise Government's scarce resources in supporting innovative non-government proposals.
3. To signal to the world that NSW is the place to be to trial or demonstrate Advanced Energy innovation.

What is the focus of the AE Challenge?

The Government recognises that our energy sector is exposed to new challenges and opportunities from emerging technologies, changing business models and a carbon constrained economy. Energy markets and technology are complex and interconnected. This can create barriers for 'first movers' with competitive

new technology or business models.

The AE Challenge therefore seeks proposals that will help the State adapt and promote an orderly transition to an energy future that is more affordable, reliable, secure and sustainable.

How will it work?

To stimulate market competition the AE Challenge is envisaged to run as a series of rounds, with each round targeting a different problem or topic.

The first AE Challenge, or pilot round, will invite innovative proposals for transformational projects in the field of Energy Storage.

If demonstrated to be effective, the AE Challenge will run further rounds on different topic areas.

Who can participate?

Anyone can participate in the AE Challenge. However, only the best few proposals that meet and score highly on both the 'Entry Gate' and 'Competitive' criteria can progress to the call for detailed proposals.

Why participate?

The AE Challenge offers an opportunity to work with Government to deploy the levers available to help realise your transformative proposals.



The AE Challenge does not establish new funding mechanisms but rather offers partnerships and in-kind support through two broad streams:

1. **Demonstration support** - Government procurement to test, pilot, demonstrate and commercialise innovative ideas, technologies or business models (with the government being or providing links to first customers).
2. **Concierge support** - for example:
 - Advice on navigating government approvals / regulations;
 - Facilitating connections, partnerships and access within and between the government, industry and research sectors;
 - Leveraging of government assets;
 - Providing access to government data;
 - Opportunities for regulatory waivers and, where

validated, accelerated regulatory reform; and

- Referral to existing funding opportunities; for example Jobs for NSW, Climate Change Fund, Coal Innovation Fund and others.

A successful AE Challenge will result in one or more agreements between proponents and the NSW Government to co-design and implement the best proposals.

How to apply?

For more information or to submit your expression of interest visit:

www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/advanced-energy-challenge

Contact

Division of Resources & Energy

T: +61 (0) 2 8289 3968

E: advanced.energy.challenge@industry.nsw.gov.au

What is Advanced Energy?

Advanced Energy refers to the combined use of new technologies and business models to make our energy systems more affordable, reliable, secure or sustainable. It includes both specific technologies (e.g. renewables, storage, smart meters, internet interaction or energy efficiency) and also new customer options and business models made possible by reform of enabling regulations.

Timeline

Stage	Process milestone	Indicative date
Stage 1 EOIs and Pitching	Call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs)	16 December 2016
	EOI closing date, then 'Entry Gate' screening	5:00pm, 3 Feb 2017
	Respondents notified and successful respondents invited to pitch to an evaluation panel (10 minute presentation, 5 minute Q&A)	WC 13 February, 2017
	Pitching day(s), then 'Competitive Gate' shortlisting	W/C 27 February, 2017
Stage 2 Detailed proposals and negotiations	Successful respondents asked for detailed proposals	W/C 6 March 2017
	Detailed proposal closing date; detailed strategic, technical and legal evaluations	5:00pm, 3 April 2017
	Proponents notified and successful proponents invited to negotiate	W/C 17 April 2017
	Agreements ready for signature	8 May 2017



Overview

The Advanced Energy (AE) Challenge is a public call for proposals that progress the Government's drive for an Advanced Energy State and that require a Government partnership to succeed.

The scheme offers in-kind government support for the best few proposals that demonstrate transformative benefits to the State, its businesses and citizens.

The AE Challenge format creates competition to help the State prioritise the application of its scarce resources to those proposals with the greatest potential value to NSW. The outcome of selection will be agreements between the State and the successful proponent(s).

What is Advanced Energy?

Advanced Energy refers to the combined use of new technologies and business models to make our energy systems more affordable, reliable, secure or sustainable. It includes both specific technologies (e.g. renewables, storage, smart meters, internet interaction or energy efficiency) and also new customer options and business models made possible by reform of enabling regulations.

Objectives

1. To support to market the best new technologies or business models that progress the government's drive for an Advanced Energy state.
2. To provide a transparent and efficient process to prioritise our scarce resources in supporting innovative non-government proposals.
3. To signal to the world that NSW is the place to trial or demonstrate Advanced Energy innovation.

This is page number 38 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman



Outcomes

A successful AE Challenge will result in one or more agreements between proponents and the NSW Government to work together to:

- Accelerate transformational proposals by utilising Government purchasing power, data, assets or other levers; or
- Resolve Government-related barriers that may be preventing the trial or demonstration of transformative advanced energy technologies.

This can include proposals to progress projects along the path to commercialisation where the proposal removes or addresses a barrier for all market participants.

Incentives for participation

The AE Challenge offers proponents in-kind Government support rather than establishing new funding mechanisms. The Government recognises that in highly regulated markets the private sector may not be seeking public sector finance to offer new products or services but rather access to government's ability to open doors for innovation and experimentation in a well-managed way.

In-kind support is offered through two broad streams; 'demonstration' support and / or 'concierge' services:

Demonstration support

- Government procurement to test, pilot, demonstrate and commercialise innovative ideas, technologies or business models (with the government being or providing links to first customers). To illustrate, the Government has tools that the free market does not, an asset portfolio that can be utilised in new ways and a purchasing power that can provide the critical mass needed to support change:
 - As an example, the NSW Government procures over 1522GWH annually, with the NSW Department of Industry spending in excess of \$18M for its 117GWH share.
 - With more than 255 infrastructure assets spread across the State and a fleet of 1 472 vehicles, the Department of Industry can leverage its asset base to help support experimentation and demonstration. Previous examples of better utilising these assets include the current EV test at Orange and Maitland and trialling solar at Londonderry and Tamworth.

Concierge support - for example:

- Advice on navigating government approvals / regulations;
- Facilitating connections, partnerships and access within and between the government, industry and research sectors;
- Leveraging of government assets;
- Providing access to government data;
- Opportunities for regulatory waivers and, where validated, accelerated regulatory reform; and;
- Referral to existing funding opportunities; for example Jobs for NSW, Climate Change Fund, Coal Innovation Fund and others.

Structured approach

To stimulate market competition the AE Challenge will be operated in rounds, with each round focusing on a different problem or outcome. The first or pilot round will focus on energy storage, with subsequent rounds shaped by the success and lessons of the first round.



Scheme process and timetable

Stage	Process milestone	Indicative date
Stage 1 - EOIs and Pitching	Call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs)	16 December 2016
	EOI closing date, then 'Entry Gate' screening	5:00pm, 3 Feb 2017
	Respondents notified and successful respondents invited to pitch to an evaluation panel (10 minute presentation, 5 minute Q&A)	WC 13 February, 2017
	Pitching day(s), then 'Competitive Gate' shortlisting	W/C 27 February, 2017
Stage 2 – Detailed proposals and negotiations	Successful respondents asked for detailed proposals	W/C 6 March 2017
	Detailed proposal closing date; detailed strategic, technical and legal evaluations	5:00pm, 3 April 2017
	Proponents notified and successful proponents invited to negotiate	W/C 17 April 2017
	Agreements ready for signature	8 May 2017

Assessment Process

The scheme has two types of criteria: 'Entry Gate' and 'Competitive'. At the EOI screening stage the Entry Gate criteria will be applied on a pass / fail basis. At the Shortlisting and Detailed Assessment stages both the Entry Gate and Competitive criteria will be used to score and rank proposals. Evaluations will be undertaken by an Expert Evaluation Panel comprising of government and industry representatives.

An overview of how each type of criteria will be applied at each stage is summarised below:

1. EOI screening

Criteria applied: Entry Gate criteria will be applied as pass / fail and must be met to advance to the pitching and shortlisting stage. Competitive criteria may also be applied if necessary to reduce the number of 'pitches' to a manageable quantity.

2. Shortlisting

Criteria applied: Proposals progressing from the EOI screening stage will be invited to pitch their proposal to an Expert Evaluation Panel. Pitches will be scored against both the Entry Gate and Competitive criteria. In scoring pitches the Expert Evaluation Panel may also have regard to written EOIs. Top scoring proponents will be invited to submit detailed proposals.

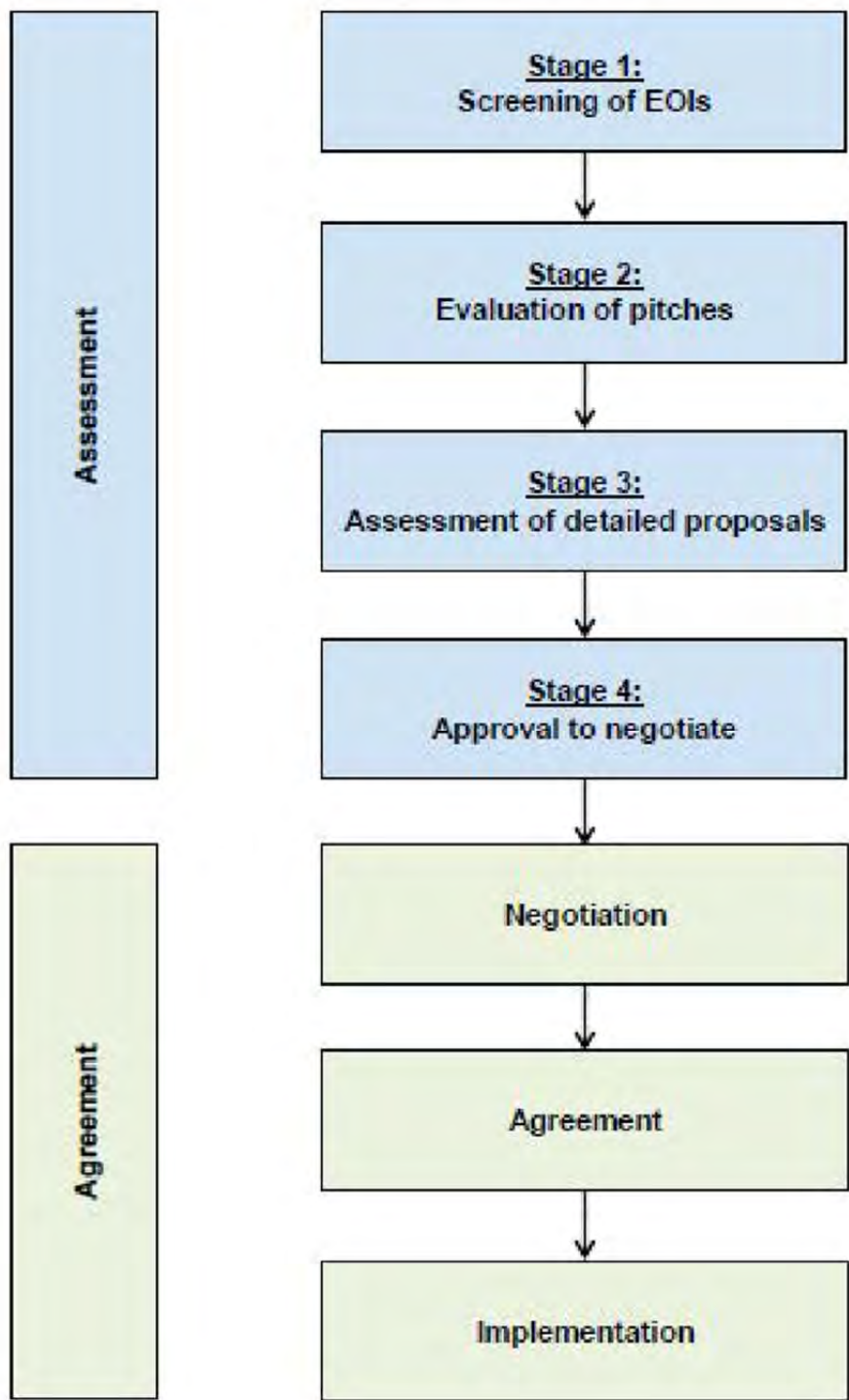
3. Detailed assessment

Criteria applied: Detailed proposals will be scored against both the Entry Gate and Competitive criteria with the highest scoring proposals invited to negotiate the terms of a binding partnership agreement.

The Minister for Resources & Energy will have the final decision on whether proposals will progress to negotiation.



Figure 1: AE Challenge Assessment Process: Stages 1 – 4





Scheme criteria

The Entry Gate and Competitive criteria are detailed below.

#	Entry Gate Criteria	Detail
1	On target	The proposal must address a stated topic identified by the AE Challenge and demonstrate its ability to deliver on the Advanced Energy outcomes of affordability, reliability, security and sustainability.
2	Project readiness	The proposal must show that the proponent has carefully considered what would be needed to execute the project (including managing risks and challenges) and has made the necessary preparations to engage with the government if the project is selected for agreement.
3	Time-bound	The government support that the proposal seeks must be time bound with a clear exit strategy. The duration requested should be specified and should generally not exceed 6-12 months (but may be longer if the particular circumstances justify it).
4	Feasibility	The proposal must demonstrate evidence of the scientific or technical feasibility of the proposals including international examples where possible AND attest that a feasibility study will be completed on or before the detailed proposal closing date.
5	Existing partners or sponsors from complementary sectors	The proposal should where possible demonstrate support or partnership from at least one other group or organisation from a different sector (e.g. industry, academia or other non-government sector) to the primary proponent, where the involvement of other non-government parties will be needed for success.
6	Need for Government partnership	The proposal must identify existing barriers to the proposal's success, identify why alternative partners are not suitable and demonstrate a need for in-kind government support, specifically identifying what support is being sought (type, quantity and duration).
7	Transformational impact	The proposal must be, or have potential to be, of sufficient scale to have a transformational impact on the NSW Advanced Energy sector
8	Completeness	The proposal must meet the minimum information requirements by providing a full and complete expression of interest.



#	Competitive Criteria	Detail
1	Project <u>net</u> benefit	The proposal should document and (where possible) quantify key benefits from the project, and also show the costs of implementing the project. The share of costs and benefits for each stakeholder group (e.g. the proponent, State of NSW, NSW electricity users, etc.) should be shown. The majority of the project's net benefits must accrue to any one or all of the state of NSW, its businesses or citizens.
2	Funding / Financing mechanism	The proposal should be costed and demonstrate how the project is to be funded or financed. If the proposal seeks funding from a government program not administered by the NSW Department of Industry, contact details for the proposed funding provider should be included.
3	Capability and capacity	The proposal should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the proponent to deliver it.
4	Market competition and efficiency	The proposal should demonstrate how it will contribute to the development of competitive markets and greater resource efficiency with reference to international case studies where possible.
5	Consumer interest	The proposal should explain how the project will lead to lower prices, improved product quality or better services.
6	Risk allocation	The proposal should identify the key risks of the project and their expected allocation - particularly those to be borne by the Government.
7	Return on government support	The benefit to the State must outweigh the cost of government partnership. The proposal should qualitatively demonstrate and, quantify where possible, the return on "investment" of government support and effort.

EOI lodgement

Applications should be completed on the AE Challenge website, using the online form and comply with any specified word limits. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Contacts

Contact us at advanced.energy.challenge@industry.nsw.gov.au

**Item 2 IT, Office Equipment and Buildings Assets Committee
Minutes 13th December 2016**

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

**STRATEGY: 5.1.1 Financial management and accountability systems -
CFO - internal**

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 29 December 2016

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

This report recommends the notation of the IT, Office Equipment and Buildings Assets Committee Minutes for the meeting held on 13th December 2016.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes for the IT, Office Equipment and Buildings Assets Committee meeting held on 13th December 2016 are noted.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Minutes Assets Committee Meeting 13 December 2016

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the Minutes for the IT, Office Equipment and Buildings Assets Committee meeting held on 13th December 2016 are noted.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Young)



**MINUTES IT, OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND BUILDINGS
ASSETS COMMITTEE**

GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2016

COMMENCING AT 10.00AM

BINGARA OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present:

Councillor Members: Cr Egan (Chair), Cr J Coulton, Cr
Dixon (10.35 am) and Cr Moore

Observer: Cr F Young

Staff: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Leeah Daley (Deputy GM),
Carmen Southwell (Public and Liaison Officer), Colin Cuell
(Building Services Manager), Alex Eddy (Design and Assets
Manager) and Tim Cox (Namoi JO Procurement Co-
ordinator)

APOLOGIES The apology of Cr T Galvin is acknowledged.

Item 1 Update of vacant land sales – Bingara

The Council's 2016/17 adopted budget included the following proposals:

Possible building and land disposals	Legal/DA costs	Estimate only	Net Saving	Potential ongoing savings annually
Bingara Civic Centre	\$10,000	(\$180,000)	(\$170,000)	
Sell Plunkett Street property with an approved DA for multiple occupancies (Bradburn)	\$40,000	(\$200,000)	(\$160,000)	
Sell Martin/Bombelli block and Maitland properties with an approved DA for multiple occupancies (includes DCP)	\$50,000	(\$360,000)	(\$310,000)	
Recoup value of past land transfers to other funds paid off over 10 years		(\$55,000)	(\$55,000)	(55,000)

A more complete update on the current position is attached

Item 2 Future planning for Council's building assets

(See attached list for agreed action required)

Item 3 General Business – Nil

Meeting closed 12.17 pm

Attachment 1

Vacant Land Sales

Gwydir Shire Council adopted an aspirational target of increasing its population by 3,000 residents by 2031, at its Council Meeting on 17th December 2015:

THAT the policy document, entitled *A Draft Population Policy for Gwydir Shire from Warialda District Chamber*, be endorsed as an aspirational population target and that the staff further develops the strategies required to implement, as far as possible, the achievement of the goals outlined in the policy document.

In order to achieve this ambitious target the staff has been undertaking the following steps:

Firstly a review of the Council's Economic and Tourism Strategy;

The Council's involvement in the *Australian Research Council's Linkage Project: Local Government and Housing in Australia for the 21st Century*;

The creation of new economic activity and employment options through the Circular Economy investigations; and;

Investigating the possibility of developing Gwydir Shire as a [Refugee Welcome Zone](#). This is being investigated through the Ministerial Regional Multicultural Advisory Committee.

The review of the Council's Economic and Tourism Strategy is almost completed and will be formally put to Council for adoption early in 2017.

More information regarding the Council's involvement with the *Australian Research Council's Linkage Project: Local Government and Housing in Australia for the 21st Century* can be found at <https://localgovernmentandhousing.com/> or by following the hyperlink. This research investigates the role of local government in housing Australians in the 21st Century.

The project, a 3-year mixed-methods study, will examine this relationship between local government and housing, and identify new ways in which local governments – and the communities they represent – can meet their housing aspirations. The project will identify and develop a suite of policies and actions for use by local governments across Australia in metropolitan, rural and regional settings.

The study will do the following:

- Phase One: A review of the relevant legislative and regulatory reforms (post 2000) that affect the interplay between local governments and housing.
- Phase Two: In-Depth Interviews and focus groups with key informants on how local governments view housing issues will be the focus of this phase. Informants will be drawn from state and local governments, the non-government housing sector, local government associations and housing consumer groups. The jurisdictions to be focused on include South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales.
- Phase Three: This phase will involve an online survey of all Local Governments in Australia to examine their engagement and experience with housing-related issues.

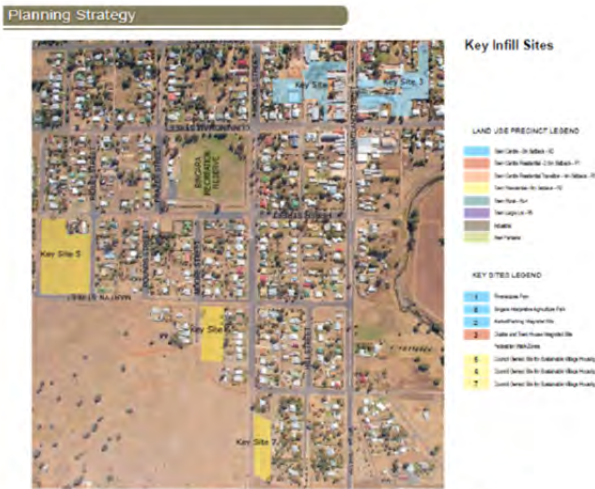
- Phase Four: In this phase we will embark on in-depth analysis of the experiences of local governments with housing from across the Australian urban system – including rural, remote, suburban, and inner urban settings. Eight to ten localities will be focused on.
- Phase Five: The final phase will involve the dissemination of the findings through academic and policy channels, including presentations to industry partner and groups at both national and international forums.

The project involves a partnership between two of Australia's leading research universities: the University of South Australia and the University of Technology Sydney. The research is being conducted in partnership with Berri Barmera Council, City of Mount Gambier, City of Playford, City of Sydney, Greater Bendigo City Council, Gwydir Shire Council, Moonee Valley City Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Randwick City Council, Rural City of Murray Bridge, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Waverley Council

The types of housing options developed by the research will have a beneficial impact within Gwydir Shire as a desirable location to move to from a larger centre. The current vacant land areas in both Warialda (Plunket Street) and Bingara (Moore/Riddle Streets) suitable for higher density development are possibly suitable for development based upon the outcomes of this research project

Overall it is extremely important that the strategy adopted is soundly based and not a simplistic endeavour that will not achieve the aspirational target adopted. The limited resources available to the Council need to be targeted appropriately to achieve the desired positive outcomes.

Bingara Vacant Land Holdings



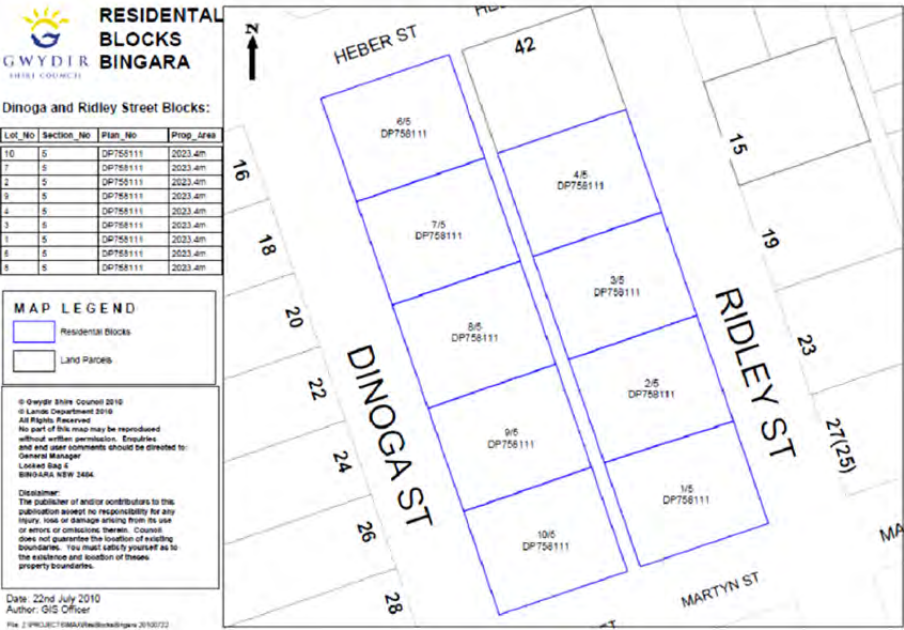
Extract from Bingara Planning Document

The 'key sites' 5, 6 and 7 outlined above have been the areas of concentration for subdivision and eventual sale for housing.

This is page number 49 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

Key Site 5



These blocks were not to be placed on the market initially. However the Real estate Agents contacted feel that they are the most saleable.

The original Survey undertaken by Stephen McCosker was prepared in 2004 but was not lodged for registration. Only an A4 copy of the original survey could be found.

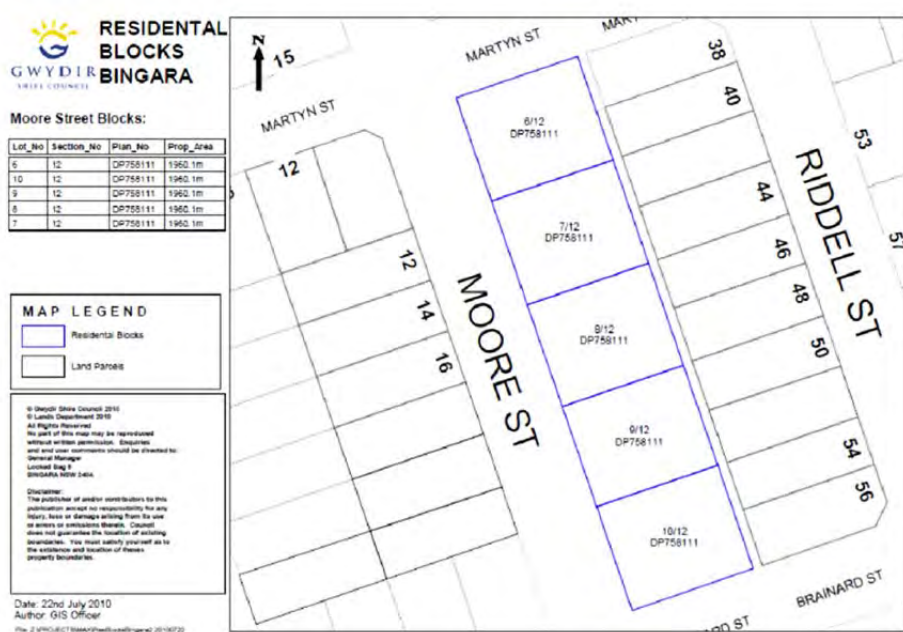
Alex Eddy contacted Stephen McCosker and he advised that he did not have the survey on record anymore. Jim Noad was commissioned to "re do" the survey.

No quotation has been sort for electricity connection however Essential Energy advised that electricity is available and connection will be an easy process. Before exchange of any contracts this needs to be confirmed and a condition inserted into the contract for sale that the connection is at the purchaser's cost.

Similarly, Andrew Cooper has advised that sewerage and water pipeline are installed and it is just a matter of creating individual connections. Before exchange of any contracts this needs to be confirmed and a condition inserted into the contract for sale that the connection is at the purchaser's cost.

However, this entire parcel is earmarked for the creation of a higher density development in line with the Council resolution from February 2016 in line with the Bingara Town Strategy and the possible outcome from the current research project.

Key Site 6

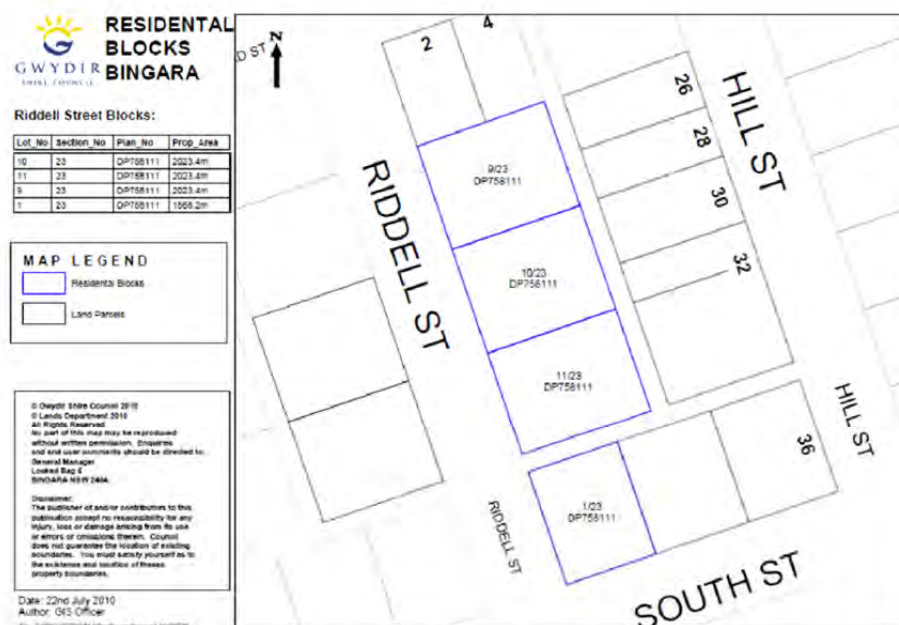


The earthworks undertaken from the All Nations Hill to the Living Classroom should prevent or minimise the storm water issue.

The plan is to sell the three northern blocks first. If interest is shown in the two southern blocks, the purchasers will need to be made very aware of potential 'flooding' issues.

The site is being monitored during heavy downpours and times of extreme run off.

Key Site 7



Property Address	Valuation Range	Initial Asking Price	Method of sale
65 Riddell St Bingara	\$20,000 - \$40,000	\$40,000	Agent
67 Riddell St Bingara	\$20,000 - \$40,000	\$40,000	Agent
69 Riddell St Bingara	\$20,000 - \$40,000	\$40,000	Agent

The original Survey undertaken by Stephen McCosker was prepared in 2004 but was not lodged for registration. Only an A4 copy of the original survey could be found.

Alex Eddy contacted Stephen McCosker and he advised that he did not have the survey on record anymore. Jim Noad was commissioned to "re do" the survey.

No quotation has been sort for electricity connections however Essential Energy advised that electricity is available and individual connections will be an easy process. Before exchange of any contracts this needs to be confirmed and a condition inserted into the contract for sale that the connection is at the purchaser's cost.

Similarly, Andrew Cooper has advised that sewerage and water pipeline are installed and it is just a matter of creating individual connections. Before exchange of any contracts this needs to be confirmed and a condition inserted into the contract for sale that the connection is at the purchaser's cost.

Other Bingara Possible Sales

The following properties are also being considered for sale but can only be sold when other suitable dwellings have been constructed:

3 Bowen St Bingara (staff housing)	\$260,000 - \$280,000	\$280,000	Agent
84 Finch St Bingara (GP Housing)	\$240,000 - \$260,000	\$260,000	Agent

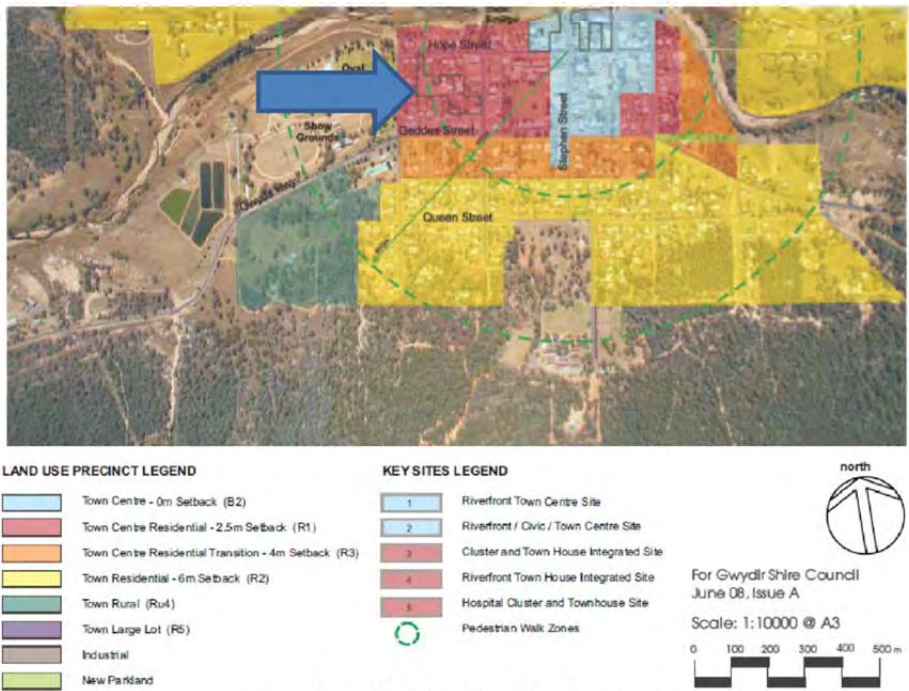
The recent sale of the Council's Gwydir Terrace property has enabled the planning to commence for the construction of other more suitable accommodation on vacant land in Maitland Street owned by the Council.

Warialda Vacant Land Holdings

Plunkett/Hope Streets, Warialda

This parcel of land was originally proposed for an extension to the adjoining aged unit complex. However, the proposed development of independent living units adjacent to the Naroo Complex has altered the strategic need for this land.

This overall site could now be developed in a similar manner to Key Site 5 in Bingara



Extract from Warialda Planning Document.

This is page number 53 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

10	IT, Office Equipment and Buildings Assets Committee Minutes	13 th December 2016
----	--	--------------------------------

Attachment 2

Agreed Action Plan

11

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Yallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Administration Buildings											3		
Bingara Office	2												
Warialda Office		5											
Bingara Court House	1												
Community Centres											5		
Bingara Civic Centre	1											Report on the appropriateness of calling for Expressions of Interest from potential purchasers	GM
Bingara Senior Citizens Centre	1												
St Marys School	3											Report on the costs and income of operating this facility	C Southwell
Bingara Arts Centre	1												
Bingara Scout Hall	1											Investigate the legal status of the Council's ownership. Possible relocation for other uses.	C Southwell legal status and GM for other uses.

11

This is page number 55 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

12

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Vallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Community Housing											6		
Plunkett Street Aged Units		7										Report on the costs and income for these low cost housing facilities	C Southwell
Holden Street Aged Units		6											
Whitfield Place Aged Units	6												
50 Market Street Community House		1											
75 Queen Street Community House		1											
113 Long Street Community Housing		1											
Council Housing											8		
123 High Street Residence		1										This property was purchased with funding from the community for doctors' housing. Investigate the potential for sale and building more appropriate accommodation.	C Southwell sale and C Cuell building
8 Olive Pyke Terrace Residence		1											
3 Bowen Street Residence	2												
12 Gwydir Terrace	1											Being sold and the funds used to develop more appropriate housing options.	C Southwell

12

This is page number 56 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

13

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Vallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Rosehill Drive Residence	1		2										
34 Wilby Street Residence													
84 Finch Street Residence	2												
10-12 Olive Pyke Terrace		4											
Museums											2		
Bingara Museum	6												
Gravesend Museum								2				Report on the appropriateness of calling for Expressions of Interest from potential purchasers	G Standerwick
Other Buildings											17		
Warialda Squash Centre		1											
Warialda Care Assist Office		1										Report on the appropriateness of calling for Expressions of Interest from potential purchasers	G Standerwick

13

This is page number 57 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

14

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Yallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Carinda House		2											
Bradburn Building and curtilage of land		3										This facility also stores the material owned by the Historical Society. The President of the Society has been contacted. After discussion a commitment was given that an appropriate storage facility will be built (off the shelf double garage type structure) behind the existing Museum (former Masonic Hall). The overall site will be investigated for subdivision - see notes in Attachment 1.	C Cuell design and estimate for storage structure. GM preparation of subdivision plan for consideration by the Committee
NAB Building & Residence	2												
Bingara Hatchery	3												
35 Maitland Street	2												
Warialda Preschool		1											
Bingara Landcare	1												
Bingara Vet Clinic	1												
Warialda CTC Office		1											
Warialda Standard Office		1											
Warialda Masonic Lodge		1											
Fayes Park Structures	1												

14

This is page number 58 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

15

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Vallaroi	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Lowes Service Station	1											Currently being sold with the funds being allocated to the 'Behind the Meter' scheme (BTMS)	C Southwell sale and D Thain BTMS
Rivercare/Apex Shed		1											
Challenge Community Services		1											
Public Amenities											12		
Nicholson Oval amenities		1											
33 Maitland Street	1												
Cunningham Park	1												
CWA Park	1												
Captain Cook Park		1											
Apex Park		1											
Warialda Saleyards		1											
Warialda Recreation Ground		1											
Warialda Office		1											
Moffat Park								1					
Coolatai Hall					1								
North Star Park			1										

15

This is page number 59 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Yallaroi	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Public Halls											8		
Warialda Memorial Hall		1										Included the air conditioning of this facility in the Council's LTFP	R Wood LTFP and C Southwell to source possible grant funding
Gravesend Public Hall								1				Consult the community about the need to demolish this building	C Southwell consultation and C Cuell demolition
North Star Public Hall			1									Consult the community about the future of this Hall plus the North Star Caravan Park	C Southwell
Yallaroi Public Hall						1							
Crooble Hall							2						
Coolatai Public Hall					1								
Gravesend RSL Hall								1					
Croppa Creek Public Hall									1				
Gulf Creek Hall												Report on the continuing need for this facility given its dilapidated condition.	C Cuell building assessment and C Southwell community consultation
Miscellaneous Structures											1		
Miscellaneous Structures (bus shelters, picnic shelters etc)	10	10	3		1			2					
	130	52	57	7	0	3	1	2	7	1	0	62	

17

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Yallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Sportsgrounds											3		
Warialda Indoor Sports Complex & Recreation Ground		2											
Nicholson Oval		1											
Gwydir Oval	3												
Community Fitness											2		
Warialda Fitness Centre		1											
Bingara Fitness Centre (not Council owned)	1												
Medical Centres											2		
Warialda Medical Centre		1											
Bingara Medical Centre	1												
Pools											2		
Warialda Pool		3											
Bingara Pool	3												

17

This is page number 61 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

18

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Yallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Noxious Weeds											2		
Warialda weeds container		1											
Bingara weeds container	1												
Showgrounds											1		
Bingara Showground	19												
Depots											3		
Warialda Depot		4											
Bingara Depot	9												
North Star Depot			1										
Family Services											1		
Warialda Toy Library		1											

18

This is page number 62 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

19

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Vallaroi	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Children Services											2		
Tharawonga			1										
Bingara Preschool	3												
Aged Services											1		
Naroo Hostel		4											
Community Development											6		
Warialda HACC		1											
Bingara HACC	2												
Delungra HACC				1									
Warialda Library		1											
Roxy Complex	2												
Warialda Tourist Information Centre		2											

19

This is page number 63 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

20

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Yallaro	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Caravan Parks											3		
Warialda Caravan Park		10										An options report is being prepared. There is an issue with several on-site cabins encroaching onto the adjoining Crown Land.	N Headford
Bingara Caravan Park	17											See comments on North Star Hall	
North Star Caravan Park													
Gwydir Learning Region											3		
Hospitality TTC	1												
Automotive TTC		1											
Living Classroom	3												
Emergency Services											2		
Warialda SES HQ		1											
Bingara SES HQ	1												
Rural Fire Service											15		
Warialda RFS HQ		1											
Bingara RFS HQ	1												
North Star			1										
Gravesend								1					
Coolatai					1								

20

This is page number 64 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

21

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delungra	Coolatai	Vallaroi	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Croppa Creek									1	1			
Bangheet										1			
Rocky Creek										1			
Stonefield										1			
Diamond Swamp										1			
Gragin										1			
Upper Horton										1			
Cobbadah										1			
Dinoga										1			
Whitlow										1			
Other Engineering Services											3		
Warialda Driver Reviver		1											
Mt Toolimbah Transmission Tower										1			
Bingara Saleyards	1												
Water & Sewer											3		
Bingara Sewerage Treatment Works		2											
Warialda Sewerage Treatment Works	2												
Bingara Water Treatment Plant	2												

21

This is page number 65 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

Classification	Bingara	Warialda	North Star	Delunggra	Coolatai	Yallarlai	Crooble	Gravesend	Croppa Creek	Other	Facilities	Action Where Required	Responsible Officer
Waste													
Warialda Landfill		2											
Bingara Landfill	1												
	130	73	40	3	1	1	0	0	1	1	10	54	

**Item 3 Organisation and Community Development Report -
December 2016/January 2017**

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

AUTHOR Organisation Development Director

DATE 30 January 2017

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The monthly Organisation and Community Development report details the activities carried out by the Department during the months of December 2016 and January 2017.

BACKGROUND

The monthly Organisation and Community Development report forms part of a regular reporting regime. The purpose of the report is to inform Council of the activities carried out within the Department.

COMMENT

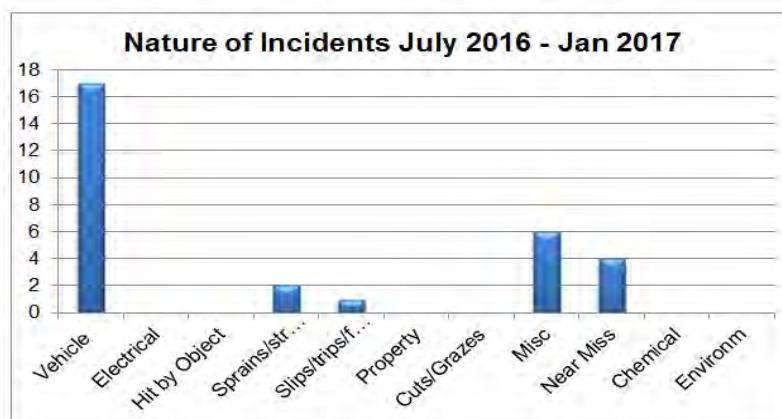
Incident Reporting for the period November 2016 – January 2017

There were 10 incidents/near misses reported for the period 1 November 2016 to 30 January 2017:

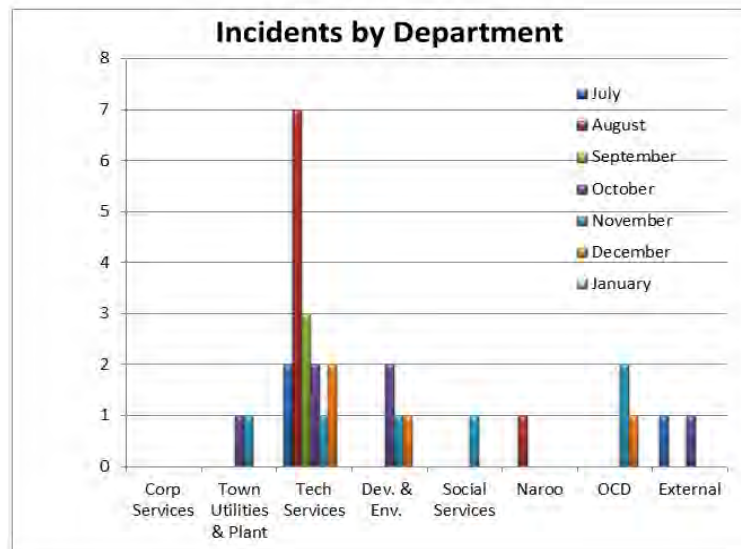
3 in Bingara, 4 in Warialda and 3 in North Star;

7 incidents were internal and 3 near misses were external.

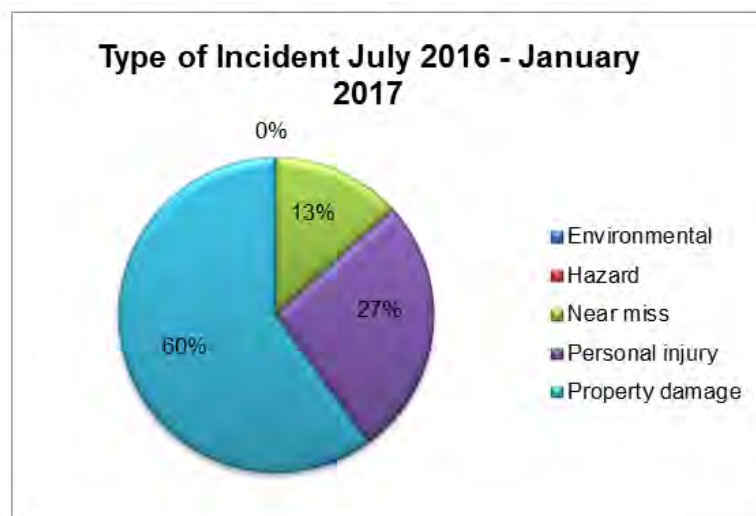
The nature of incidents reported has been broken down into 11 categories:



The following image shows the occurrence of Incidents by department to date this financial year.



Council's Incident/Accident report form defines the injury/accident into five (5) categories:



Events

Another successful late night shopping evening was held on Thursday 8th December in Bingara; despite threatening rain and a few showers the event still went ahead with a good crowd. Council's Social Services coordinated gift giving for children, with over 150 gifts handed out.

The Roxy Theatre

The Department of Heritage advertised the Notice of Intention to list the Roxy Theatre:

This is page number 68 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

The Heritage Council of NSW resolved, at its meeting of 7 December 2016, to give notice of its intention to consider listing the Roxy Theatre and Peters Café Complex on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgement of its heritage significance to the people of New South Wales. This advice is in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW).

Any members of the community, owners, managers, organisations or other interested parties are invited to make a written submission regarding the proposed listing and significance of the Roxy Theatre and Peter's Café Complex. Submissions should be posted or emailed to the Heritage Council of NSW at the following address before the 16th January.

An extension on the Notice of Intention was then granted and closes on 7th February after which time Council should be given an outcome in relation to the success of the application.

The Roxy Cafe

A number of enquiries regarding the lease on the Roxy Café have been fielded over December/January, one of which has submitted an expression of interest and inspected the premises. It is hoped that over the next few weeks negotiation with the interested party will be successful and Council will see Peters Café reopen its doors.

Naroo Aged Care Hostel

Naroo Bond Report – Attachment 1

Occupancy – currently 33/36 with four (4) respite. Two (2) new permanent residents expected early February.

Naroo Staff Training July 2016– January 2017	Attendance
Wound Management	16
Continuous Improvement	8
Risk Everyone's Responsibility	10
Mandatory Training (First Aid/CPR/Fire Training)	35
Medication	10
Behaviours	10
Dementia, Delirium, Depression	2
End of Life Care	2
Post falls assessment	6
Skin integrity and continence management	5
Continence management	5
Application of uridomes	12

Automotive Trade Training Centre, Warialda

Due to staff leave there has been little activity at the Automotive Trade Training Centre (ATTC) in Warialda during January, 2017.

This is page number 69 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

Following recent break-ins at the ATTC quotes have been sought to install CCTV cameras to cover the external perimeter of the premises. Gates are being constructed to close the opening between the High School and the ATTC.

Heavy Vehicle Training

The GLR RTO conducted seven (7) heavy vehicle (HV) Final Competency Assessments during the month of December. These were all private clients.

The GLR second trainer and assessor has now completed all training and assessment requirements and received a Certificate IV in Heavy Vehicle Driving Instruction and Logistics. Service NSW (previously RMS) has issued the second trainer and assessor a HV trainer and assessor licence up to a class Multi Combination (MC).

An additional, specifically structured Service NSW training program is now required to be completed by the second trainer assessor prior to registration with Service NSW. This training is currently permitted to be conducted by registered training organisations (rather than by Service NSW as was previously the case). GLR RTO will develop the required course and complete the second trainer's mandatory training in-house. Evidence of completion will then be provided to Service NSW prior to registration.

Inverell continues to be viable for heavy vehicle training and assessment up to a class HC (Heavy Combination) licence. A second route in Moree will be developed for conducting licencing to include MC (Multi Combination) vehicles.

TAFE - Automotive Vocational Preparation Certificate II

Classes have continued to be well attended throughout the year. The automotive classes have completed for the year 2016 but will re-commence when school returns in 2017.

Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)

Testing for the Bingara workshop has been completed. The Automotive Trade Training Centre is now due to be re-tested as is the Warialda depot and the Warialda workshop. There are still many departments yet to be tested. In addition to testing, a comprehensive asset list of electrical equipment is also being developed for Council records.

New courses for the Automotive Trade Training Centre

Community Colleges have secured a training contract to run High School engineering courses for students during their final years. Initial enquiries have been made with Council for GLR staff to complete the training of students conducting these courses if required. This is likely to take place early 2017 providing there are sufficient numbers. Classes being considered are located in both Warialda and Bingara.

GLR Manager’s Report:

The GLR Manager visited New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) in Armidale in January to follow up their endeavours to establish an Indigenous curator to put together an art display reflecting the Myall Creek Massacre. The GLR is keen to be a partner in this art project with the possibility of commissioning an artwork to be part of the exhibition and to subsequently be placed on site at The Living Classroom (TLC). The cost of the art would form part of the NOURISH – Bush Tucker project budget.

A Work for the Dole crew commenced work at TLC in mid-December and continues into 2017. Paul Moulton was the responsible overseer of the crew in December and Garry Chorley is undertaking that role in 2017. The costs of the overseer’s wages are being met by BEST Employment, Inverell. The program will run for 26 weeks and tasks will include building raised mandala garden beds, forming walking trails, planting and site development. The work of the crew will complement but not replace nor replicate that of the existing GSC staff. A GLR Certificate of Attainment for skills gained by the crew during their work at TLC is being considered.

The Carbon Farm and the Bush Tucker garden projects at TLC were advanced by discussions in January. The Bush Tucker project will have three (3) sand dunes formed using sand from Warialda to replicate the Dryland Pod, one of the six (6) landscapes being created to showcase the range of Bush Tucker foods.



The 20m x 7m greenhouse/nursery at TLC was assembled in January. There will be a smaller nursery relocated from elsewhere in the Shire and set up as a propagation site for cochineal beetle on prickly pear and tiger pear. This is a joint project with Northern Slopes Landcare Association and North West Local Lands Service.

Discussions are underway with Community College to host a Certificate III in Horticulture Course at TLC commencing March, 2017.

This is page number 71 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

GLR Manager is negotiating the rental of a Steam Weeder for use at TLC and within the townships.

A course on useful farm insects is being put together for a GLR hosted program in autumn.

Proposed Warialda Community Garden

Council is keen to liaise with Warialda residents wishing to participate in establishing a Community Garden in Warialda.

The proposal is for a project to be developed on a block of land adjoining Gragin Road and East Street in Warialda. The block is a little more than 2 hectares, is flat at the northern end adjoining Gragin Road, and slopes gently down to Reedy Creek. This parcel of land was identified for this type of use during the development of the Warialda Town Plan.

Some interest has already been received, and it is thought that a meeting of interested people could take place in the autumn for the project to commence during the winter of 2017, for 'planting' in spring.

The concept of Community Food Gardens has gained a lot of traction over the last decade. Interest in healthy food, knowledge of how the food is grown, involvement with some gentle exercise, and being in touch with the soil are among the motivators for these projects.

The project can involve all ages and can cater for all levels of capability. Council is prepared to support the project on the condition that a community group is formed to take responsibility for the project.

Perhaps one of the local service clubs of Warialda may be interested in initiating the project with a view to handing it on as a community project, once established.



CONCLUSION

The activities carried out by the Organisation and Community Development Department are in line with the 2015/2016 Operational Plan and otherwise as directed.

This is page number 72 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred within the Organisation and Community Development Directorate.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications are those relating to the 2016/2017 Operational Plan and the Policies of Gwydir Shire Council.

FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC and RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (including Asset Management)

The activities carried out by the Organisation and Community Development Department are in line with the 2016/2017 Operational Plan.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social and Environment)

The activities undertaken by the Organisation and Community Development Department regarding social and environmental factors are targeted in line with the 2016/2017 Operational Plan.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Organisation and Community Development monthly report for December 2016 and January 2017 be received.

FURTHER that an advertisement by placed in the Warialda Standard seeking volunteers interested in developing the Warialda Community Food Garden.

FURTHER that the Warialda District Chamber, Lions and Rotary be contacted to establish if there is any interest within any group to participate in the development of the Warialda Community Food Garden.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Naroo Bond Report as at 1 February 2017

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the Organisation and Community Development monthly report for December 2016 and January 2017 be received.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Dick)

This is page number 73 of the minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 9 February 2017

Chairman

Naroo Hostel Monthly Report December 2016/ January 2017

Multi Facility Summary

Active Accommodation Bonds / Payment Schedule - Summary

As at 1/02/2017

FACILITY NAME	Pre 1 July 2014 Payment Arrangements [Bonds]	Agreed Bond	Part Lump Sum Amount	Total Payment Amount	Lump Sum Amount Outstanding	Total Bond BalanceOutstanding	Total Retention Deductions	Total Interest Deductions	Total Other Deductions	Balance
	Post 1 July 2014 Payment Arrangements [RADs/RACs]	Agreed Price	Agreed RAD/RAC Portion	Total RAD/RAC Received	Total RAD/RAC Outstanding	Agreed DAP/DAC Portion	Total DAP/DAC Deductions	Total Care Fee Deductions	Total Other Deductions	Balance
TOTAL										
NAROO AGE CARE FACILITY										
Bonds		\$422,067.73	\$422,067.73	\$422,067.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,272.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$379,794.74
RADs/RACs		\$2,308,652.44	\$1,094,820.00	\$1,319,820.00	-\$45,000.00	\$1,213,832.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,319,820.00
TOTAL		\$2,730,720.17	\$1,516,887.73	\$1,741,887.73	-\$45,000.00					\$1,699,614.74
GRAND TOTAL										
Bonds		\$422,067.73	\$422,067.73	\$422,067.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,272.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$379,794.74
RADs/RACs		\$2,308,652.44	\$1,094,820.00	\$1,319,820.00	-\$45,000.00	\$1,213,832.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,319,820.00
TOTAL		\$2,730,720.17	\$1,516,887.73	\$1,741,887.73	-\$45,000.00					\$1,699,614.74