



G W Y D I R
SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING

GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2019

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

WARIALDA OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present:

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

Staff: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Leeah Daley (Deputy General Manager), Alex Eddy (Manager, Engineering Services) and Tim Greensill (Manager, Information Services)

Public: Nil

Visitor: Nil

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Chairman

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OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME – MAYOR and he also took the opportunity to thank the Deputy Mayor, Cr Catherine Egan, for so ably filling in for him during his absence.

APOLOGIES Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM and Cr Stuart Dick

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 337/19**

THAT the apologies of Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM and Cr Stuart Dick are accepted.

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Moore)

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 338/19**

THAT the Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on Thursday 26 September 2019 as circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Young)

PRESENTATION Nil

CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The General Manager declared a pecuniary interest in Item 2 of the Confidential Agenda due to an interest in an adjoining parcel of land.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 339/19**

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 Young, seconded Cr Moore)

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Chairman

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

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 340/19**

THAT the recommendations of the Confidential Session, namely:

Organisation Structure Review (Ref: 341/19)

THAT under Section 332 of the Local Government Act 1993, as amended, Council adopts Option 'B' of the attached report as the basis for the Council's Organisational Structure.

FURTHER that only the position of General Manager is a senior staff position as required by the Act.

Gwydir Street Partial Closure (Ref: 342/19)

THAT the section of Gwydir Street Bingara, adjacent to 2 Gwydir Street is offered to Lisa M Moore for \$4,000, with Ms Moore paying all third party costs incurred by Council.

FURTHER that the adjoining owners of land in Gwydir and Bligh Streets are written to, calling for submissions.

FURTHER that following 28 days and the receipt of no objections, closure of the road and sale are formalised.

FURTHER that this report be accepted.

Local Government and Housing in the 21st Century (Ref: 343/19)

THAT the report regarding Local Government and Housing in the 21st Century be received and noted.

are adopted.

(Moved Cr D Coulton, seconded Cr Moore)

THAT the report be received and that prior to the Draft Gwydir Local Strategic Planning Statement being exhibited for public comment a meeting be held with interested stakeholders followed by community meetings in both Warialda and Bingara.

September Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report

THAT the September Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report be received.

Discussion Item

THAT the Council calls for Expressions of Interest from interested parties outlining their suggestions regarding the future management options for the Roxy Complex.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION: MINUTE 344/19

THAT the recommendations from the Public Infrastructure Committee are adopted:

Monthly Technical Services Report - September 2019 (Ref: 345/19)

THAT the Report by the Technical Services Department on the activities of the Department including Notices of Intent, Orders and Penalty Notices issued by Council be noted.

FURTHER that advertisements be called immediately for applications from farmers and drought displaced rural business and farm employees seeking causal employment (Ref: 346/19).

FURTHER that the Council expresses its extreme concern to its local Federal Members and the Deputy Prime Minister about the lack of follow-up drought assistance funding to local government to enable the employment of farmers and displaced rural workers (Ref: 347/19).

THAT the recommendations from the Community Services and Planning Committee are adopted:

Draft Gwydir Local Strategic Planning Statement (Ref: 348/19)

THAT the report be received and that prior to the Draft Gwydir Local Strategic Planning Statement being exhibited for public comment a meeting be held with interested stakeholders followed by community meetings in both

Warialda and Bingara.

September Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report (Ref: 349/19)

THAT the September Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report be received.

Discussion Item

THAT the Council calls for Expressions of Interest from interested parties outlining their suggestions regarding the future management options for the Roxy Complex (Ref: 350/19).

(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Smith)

Item 2 Monthly Executive Report for September 2019

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 18 October 2019

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The monthly Executive report details the activities carried out by the Department during the month of September 2019.

BACKGROUND

The monthly Executive 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

PLANNING REPORT

The following Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) and Development Modification (s96) applications have been approved for the month of September 2019.

No.	Property Description	Development/ Work	\$	D/A	S96	CDC
22/2015	PJ and H C Thurston Lot 8 DP 1163721 3260 Gragin Road Warialda	Modification – Internal floor plan and inclusion of verandah	-	-	✓	-
22/2019	Est Late WK and JM Hawkins Lot 234 DP 751137 133 Kellys Gully Road Warialda Rail	15,000m ³ Quarry	\$5,000	✓	-	-
23/2019	DR and PM Blomfield Lot 67 DP 822907, Lots 46, 47 and 59 DP 754857 970 Cobbadah Road Barraba	Consolidation of 4 allotments into 3 allotments	\$1,000	✓	-	-
24/2019	S J Gray Lot 1 DP 136280 and Lot 3 DP 754832 1612 Reserve Creek Road Delungra	15,000m ³ Quarry	\$5,000	✓	-	-
26/2019	BG Mills	4 bay garage with 2	\$20,000	✓	-	-

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	Lot 29 DP 17921 16-18 David Street North Star	enclosed bays and 2 open bays				
27/2019	AJI Projects Pty Ltd Lot 6 Section 56 DP 758111 51 Maitland Street Bingara & Lot B DP 371415 8 Hallmans Lane Bingara JD Ritter Lot 2 DP 714971 49 Maitland Street Bingara	Consolidation of 3 allotments into 2 allotments	\$1,000	✓	-	-
7/2019	GW and DJ Turner Lot 12 Section 42 DP 758111 88 Finch Street Bingara	Complying Development Modification of location of new garage	-	-	✓	-
9/2019	Gwydir Shire Council Lot 335 DP 751137 Res 89462 39 Queen Street Warialda	Construction of roof over existing deck/patio at front of Warialda Pre-School	\$25,000	-	-	✓

The following Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) and Development Modification (s96) applications remain outstanding at the end of September 2019.

No	Property Description and Description of Work	Reason	D/A	S96	CDC
35/2015	Copeton Dam State Park 3533 Copeton Dam Road Copeton - Continued use of existing caravan & camping facilities	Development being assessed as an existing use	✓	-	-
49/2016	Ceres Ag 'Gunyaerwarildi' 1470 North Star Road Warialda - Continued occupation/use of rural worker accommodation being the installation of a number of premanufactured cabins	Approved in principal awaiting compliance certification or engineering certification for the cabins	✓	-	-
2/2018	G & L Hosegood 'Barak' 163 Upper Whitlow Road Whitlow - 20,000m3 quarry for Council use	Awaiting Environmental Impact Statement as the quarry is considered designated development	✓	-	-
30/2018	M A Spencer 'Log Cabin' 2213 Gulf Creek Road Gulf Creek - 15,000m3 quarry for Council use	Request for additional information regarding compliance with Biodiversity Conservation Act 2017 for the removal of vegetation	✓	-	-
35/2018	B Hutchins 63 Bingara Street Warialda - Mixed residential and commercial development including the opening of 'Gully Pub' with a small bar licence and retail antiques business	Request for additional information regarding whether the existing building meets or can meet current fire safety requirements under the National Construction Code for mixed commercial and residential use	✓	-	-
12/2019	Gwydir Shire Council 396 Taroona Road Warialda - Quarry	Request for addition information by the assessing Planning Consultant independent of Council	✓	-	-
25/2019	Westbuilt Homes / K F Acres Ironbark Drive Warialda - Dwelling	Request for Additional Information being a Threatened Species 5 Part Test as required by Biodiversity Conservation Act 2017	✓	-	-
28/2019	T L Rowleson 114 Maitland Street Bingara - Dwelling Additions and Alterations	Being exhibited and notified for a period of 14 days as required by Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	✓	-	-
29/2019	Groundworks Plus and AT Pearlman 1375 Croppa Creek Road North Star	Being exhibited and notified for a period of 14 days as required by	✓	-	-

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	- 490,000 tonne Quarry	Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. Also development has been registered with Regional Planning Panel and referred to relevant state agencies			
30/2019	E J Moffat 13212 Gwydir Highway Warialda - Single Dwelling	Being exhibited and notified for a period of 14 days as required by Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	✓	-	-
31/2019	B M Munsie 405 Munsies Road Warialda - Install an above ground plunge pool	Being exhibited and notified for a period of 14 days as required by Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	✓	-	-
32/2019	J C Herring 30 Gwydir Terrace Bingara - Garage/Shed	Being exhibited and notified for a period of 14 days as required by Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	✓	-	-
33/2019	M J Barron 9 Inverell Road Warialda - Garage/Shed	Being exhibited and notified for a period of 14 days as required by Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	✓	-	-

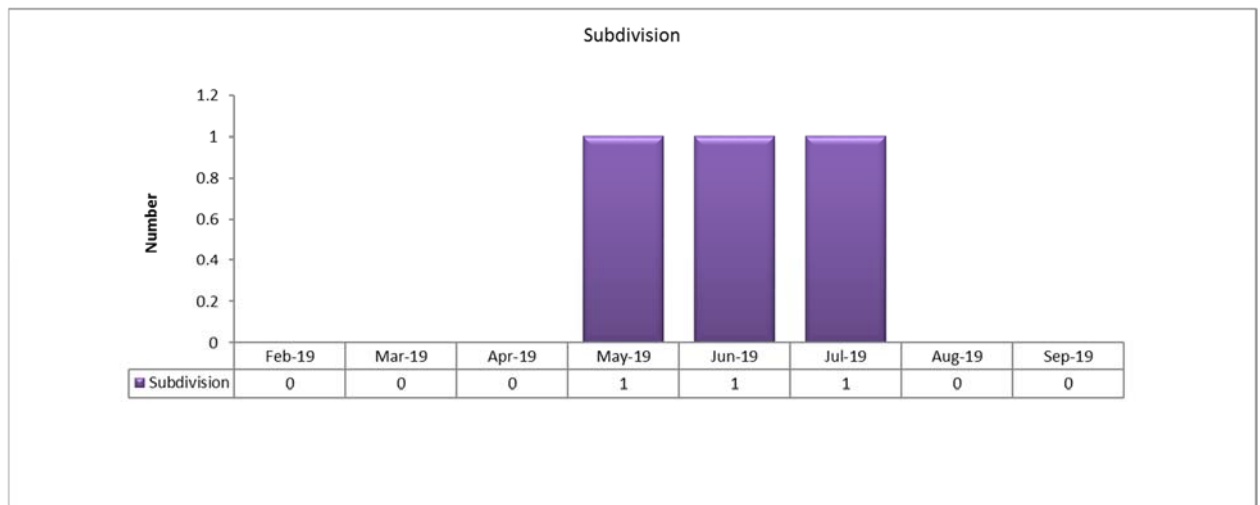
There were no Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) or Development Modification (s96) applications approved and not previously reported to Council for the month of September.

There were no Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) and Development Modification (s96) applications refused(R)/ withdrawn (W)/ Cancelled (C) for the month of September 2019.

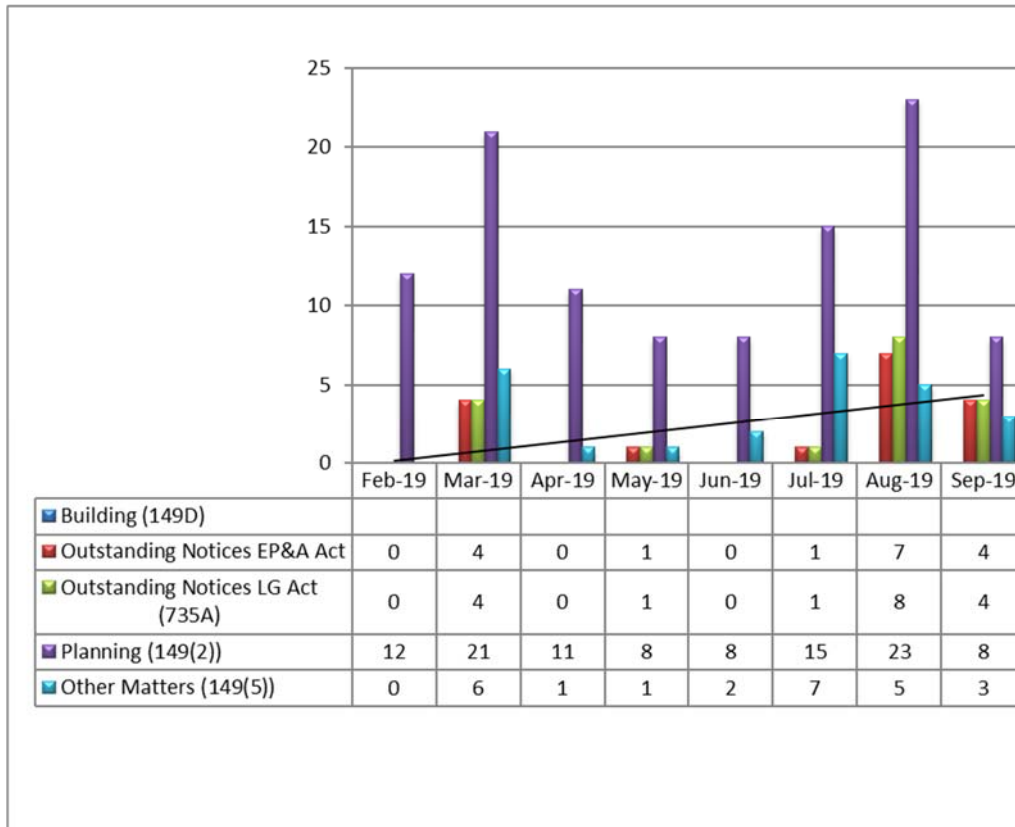
There were no Complying Development (CDC) application/s approved by Private Certifiers and lodged with Council for the month of September 2019.

There were no Development (D/A) and Complying Development (CDC) applications determined where there has been a variation in standards under SEPP 1 or clause 4.6 of the Gwydir Local Environmental Plan 2013 for the month of September 2019.

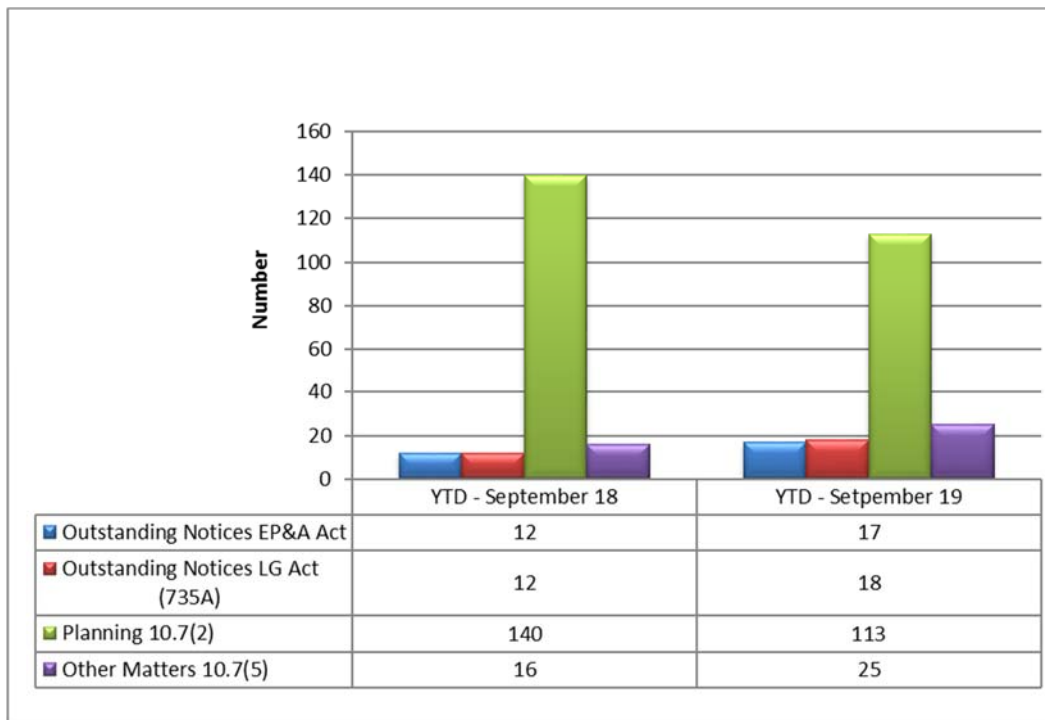
The following Subdivision Certificates were issued for the month of September 2019 and in the previous seven (7) months.



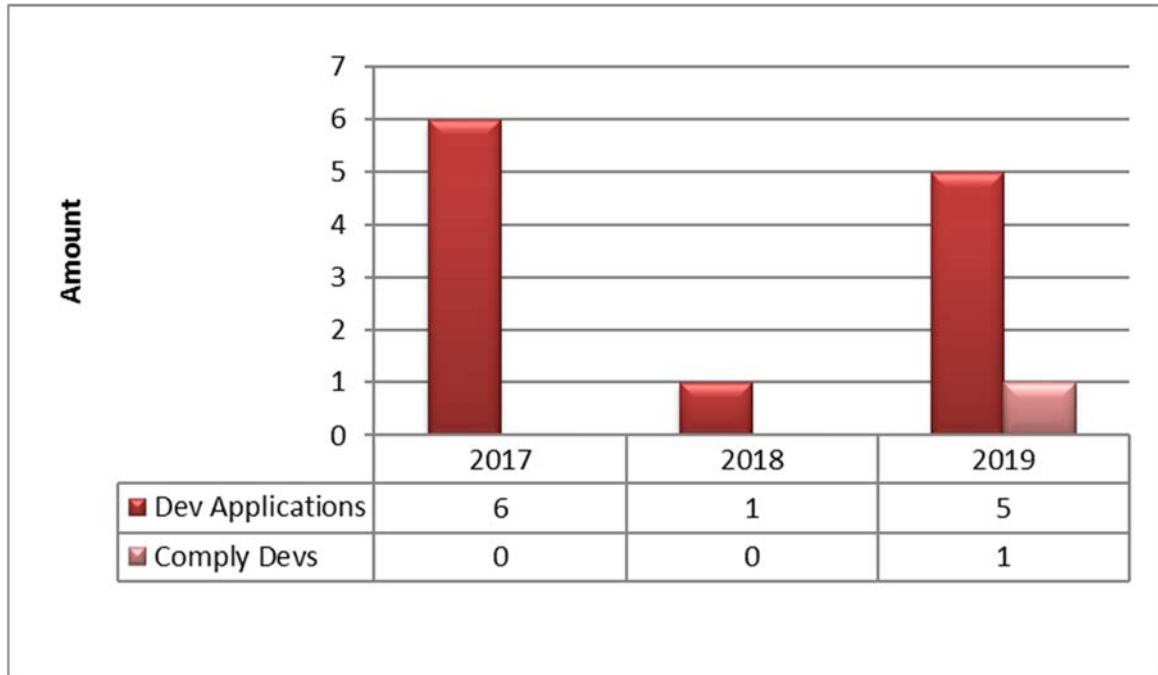
The following graph shows Conveyancing Certificates issued for September compared with the previous seven (7) months.



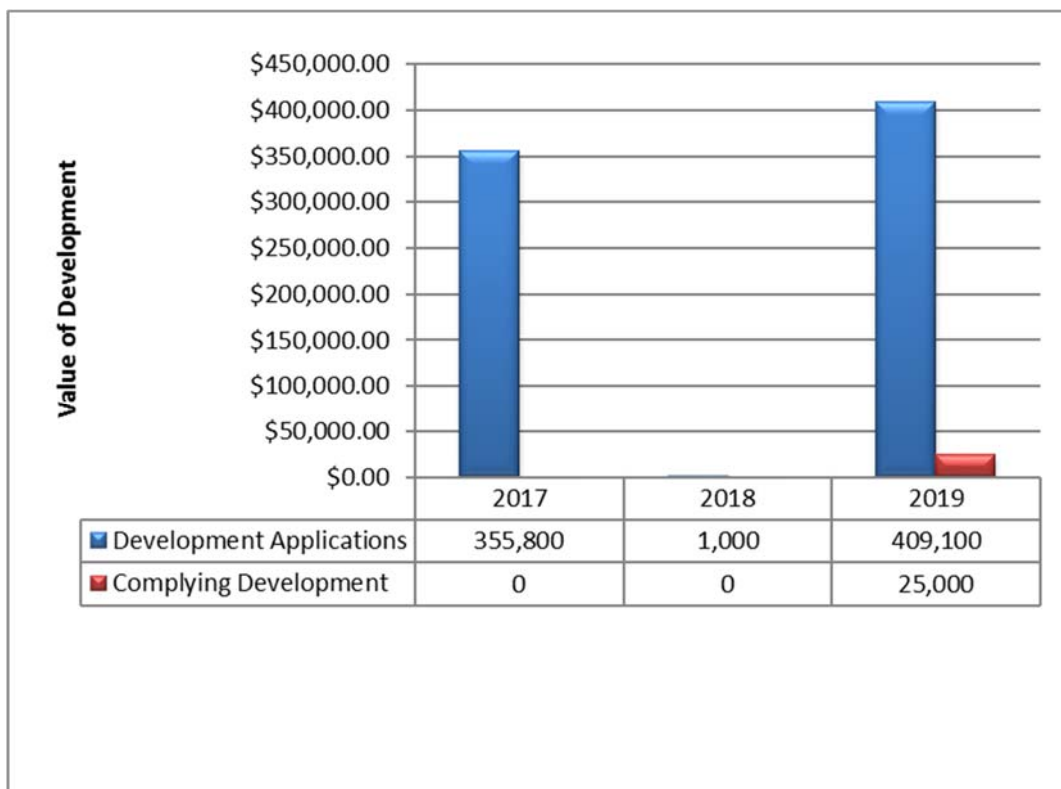
The following graph shows the number of Conveyancing Certificates issued up to and including the month of September 2019 compared with the same period in 2018.



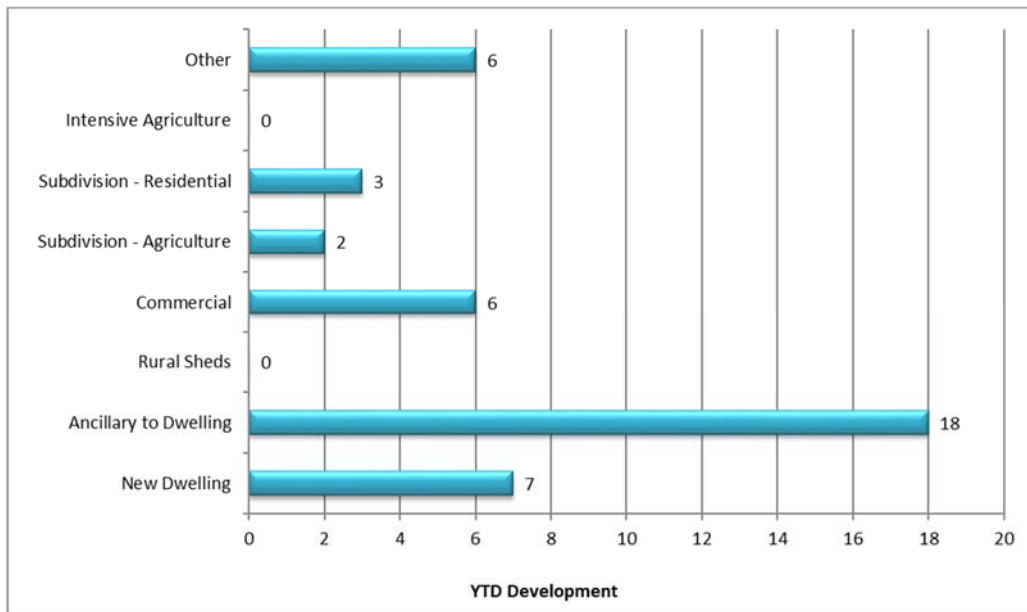
The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged for the month of September 2019 compared to the previous two years (excluding private certifier lodged applications).



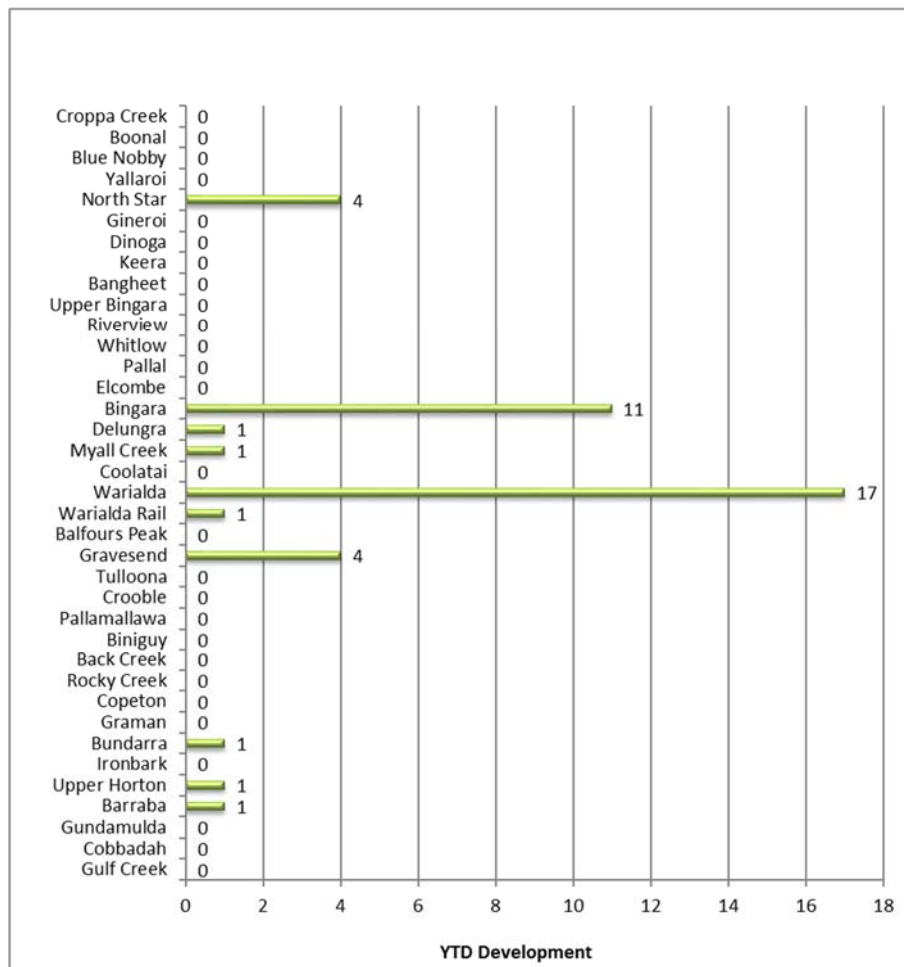
The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged for the month of September 2019 compared to the previous two years (excluding private certifier lodged applications).



Development Applications received for the year by type – YTD September 2019



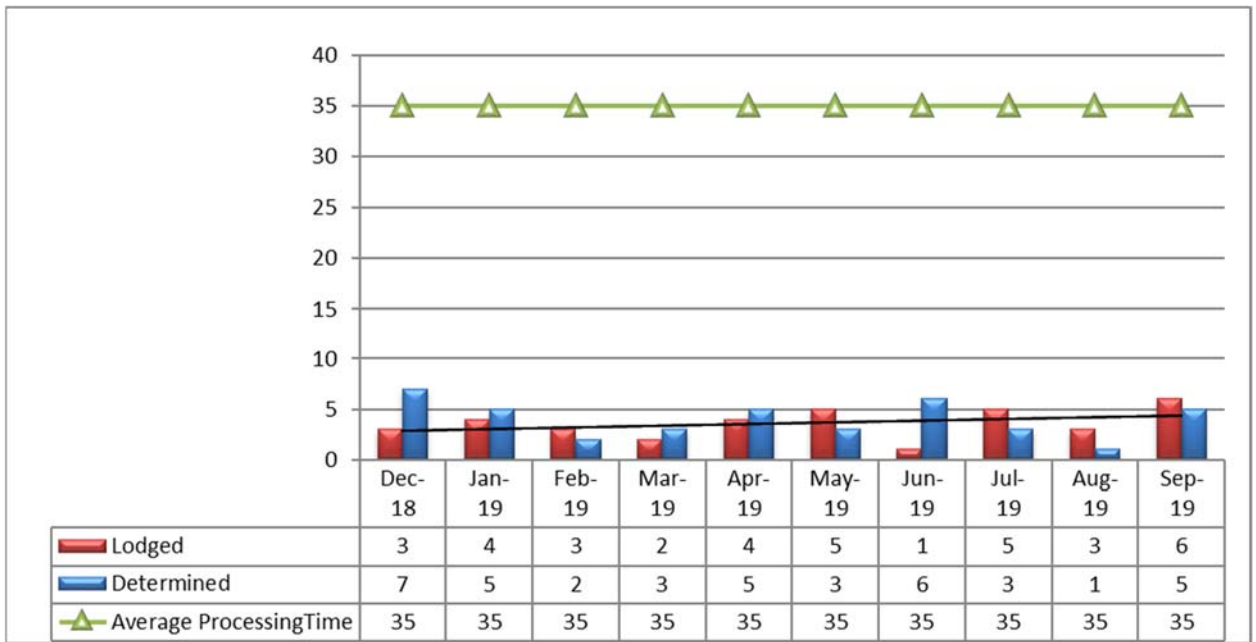
Development Applications Received for the year by locality – YTD September 2019 (includes private certifier lodged applications)



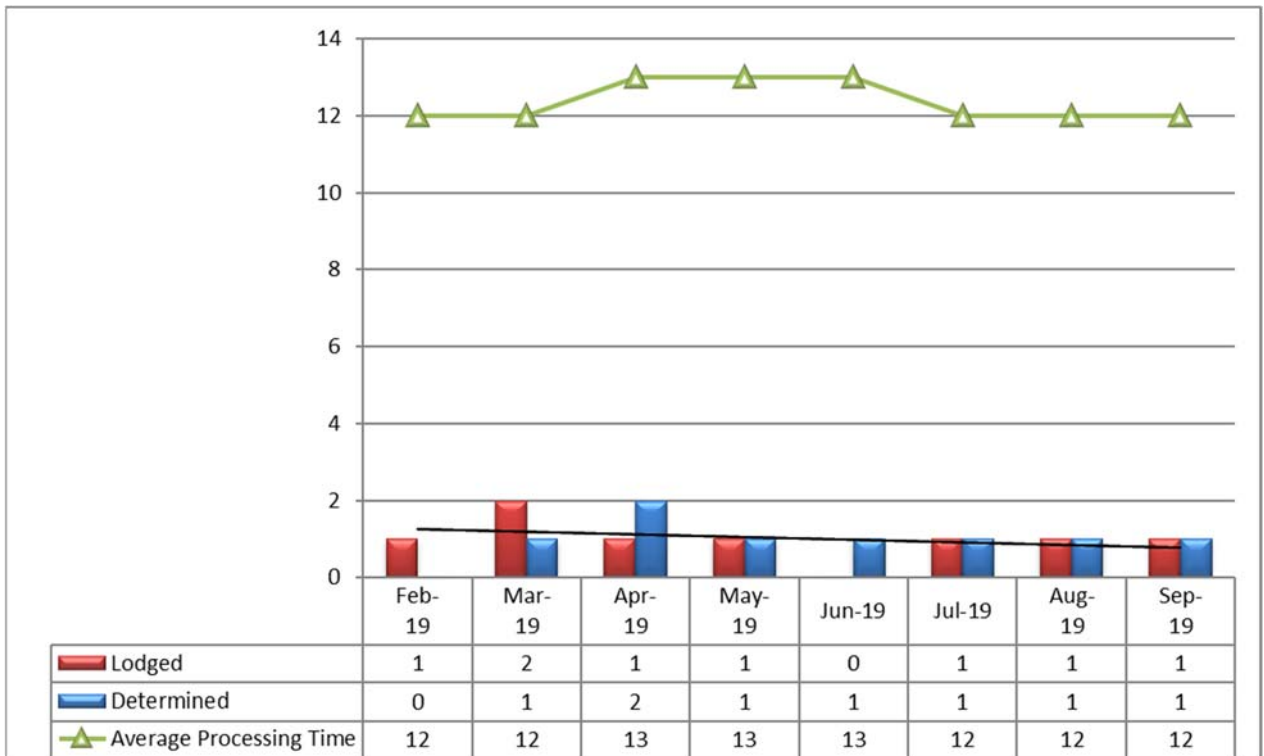
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Development Application Analysis – for the nine (9) months up to the end of September 2019 (excludes private certifier lodged and approved applications)



Complying Development Application Analysis – for the nine (9) months up to the end of September 2019 (excludes private certifier lodged and approved applications)



GWYDIR LEARNING REGION (GLR)

Use of The Living Classroom during September:

Bingara Community College has continued their “Paddock to Plate” program. They have completed their course for the 3rd Term. A review is underway for Term 4. Several of the students continue to attend plant projects at TLC as volunteers – 7 attending

The ‘Pulse of the Earth’ Festivals featuring ‘Groundswell’ was conducted over the weekend of 6 – 8 September. The vicious dust storm on the Friday night reduced the audience to about 400 but was an enjoyable and very memorable event for all who were there, especially the ‘Groundswell’ visitors who were mainly from the city.



Pulse Festival - Despite the dust storm – the show went on

The Saturday and Sunday events experienced milder weather and a total attendance of about 1100 was noted. The Festival, entertainment, food and general stalls, children’s activity centre and the ‘Groundswell’ forum all met with approval from those attending. TLC functioned very well for the event.



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Saturday activities at the Pulse festival



Pulse – the ‘Groundswell’ forum marquee.



Pulse – Kids area; ‘Things of Stone & Wood’ on stage; Film maker of ‘2040’ Damon Gameau in forum.

The GSC garden Crew have installed the ‘Nourish’ – Bush Tucker Garden signs on the 3ha site.

The Roving Homes group from Bathurst NSW visited TLC for a talk & tour – 20 visitors.

The Northern Inland Risk Management Group held a meeting during September - 15 visitors.

Two representatives from Walgett Shire paid a visit to see how TLC works. They are considering a local project aimed at indigenous youth.

A local Bingara business conducted a three day workshop and retreat at TLC utilising the Classroom and Bunkhouse in September – 9 visitors attended

A group of 42 Central Coast travellers paid a visit and were given a tour of TLC.

Essential Energy conducted a workshop at TLC. – 15 visitors attended

Fifteen members of the U3A group conducted an ‘Armchair Travel’ evening at TLC.

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Members of the GSC Garden Crew attended a morning of re-potting within the Nursery.

Sixteen members of the Bingara Garden Club held their monthly meeting at TLC, and as part of the quid pro quo arrangement, then spent an hour doing some re-potting in the Nursery.

A 100th birthday party was held at TLC during September for a local family with 150 family and friends attending.

Other GLR Matters

The GLR Manager attended the Open Day at the Narrabri Grains Research Centre and submitted a report to Council.

The Automotive Trainer represented GLR Training at the Heavy Vehicle Training Forum conducted by the RMS in Sydney.

CARAVAN PARKS

Council's caravan parks amenity and laundry facilities have been made available free of charge to rural families due to ongoing drought conditions.

Bingara Riverside Caravan Park

Following the recent wind storms, a number of trees were identified as hazardous. A number of trees were lopped and one removed by Council staff.

Warialda Caravan Park

A new commercial dryer was purchased and installed to replace one which had been used for over 14 years.

SECTION 355 COMMITTEES

Bingara Anglers' Club

Council released four staff to assist the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) - Fisheries staff to rescue native fish from the Horton River and its tributaries. As at 30 September 2019, 70 fish had been placed in ponds at the Bingara Hatchery having been successfully removed from the Horton River. This project was the first time people other than DPI staff had been authorised to undertake such action.



Steven Apthorpe at the Bingara Hatchery

Warialda Rail Community Committee – will host a fundraising Mini Debutante Ball at the Warialda Memorial Hall on Saturday, 26 October 2019.

Warialda Sports Council – contributed \$10,000 to the NSW Government Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3 – Nicholson Oval lighting project.

MYALL CREEK MEMORIAL – LIAISON

On Friday, 13 September 2019, Council staff, together with representatives of Friends of Myall Creek Committee and Aboriginal Elders, visited Myall Creek Station at the invitation of its owner. This was a special day which the Elders will remember fondly.

Council was represented at the Friends of Myall Creek Committee meeting held in Inverell on Saturday, 14 September 2019.

Following the recent wind storms, five trees were identified as hazardous at the Myall Creek Memorial Site. On Thursday, 26 September 2019, these four trees were lopped and one removed by Council staff.



One of the dangerous branches down at Myall Creek Memorial site



Council's staff doing a great job lopping tree branches at Myall Creek Memorial site

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SWIMMING POOLS

Warialda Swimming Pool

Warialda Swimming Pool opened a week earlier this year on Saturday, 28 September 2019 with a pool water temperature of 22 degrees. This is due to new heating infrastructure, which was recently installed.

Bingara Swimming Pool

The Bingara Swimming Pool opened on Saturday, 5 October 2019.

COUNCIL'S CLEANING CONTRACT

During the reporting period, in addition to the scheduled regular program, cleaning was completed at:

- Gwydir Oval – Regional Oztag competition
- Living Classroom and Bunkhouse – Pulse of the Earth Festival
- Former NAB Bank – refresh for settlement hand over
- Warialda Memorial Hall – Physical Culture competition
- Living Classroom and Bunkhouse – Quilting course
- Living Classroom and Bunkhouse – 100th Birthday celebrations.

GOVERNANCE

2018/2019 Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons Returns were completed.

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest	Pecuniary - significant	Pecuniary – less than significant	Non-Pecuniary - significant	Non-Pecuniary – less than significant
September - Committee	0	0	0	0
September – Ordinary	1 General Manager– Item 1 – Confidential Agenda	0	0	0

Customer Service Requests

Customer Service Requests	Building Services	Technical Services	Town Utilities	Environmental and Sustainability Services
July - Requests Received and Remain open	1	0	2	0
August – Requests Received and remain open	2	0	4	4 open with notations
September –	15	131	14	19

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Requests Received		(includes water delivery requests)		
September – Requests Completed	7	124	8	11
September – Requests Pending	8	7	6	8 open with notations
Year to date – number of requests which remain open	11	7	12	12 open with notations

NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) Workshops

ICAC training workshops were held at the Warialda Training Room on Tuesday 10 September 2019. Twenty one Council staff attended the Corruption Prevention for Managers and Supervisors Workshop which focused on procurement.

In addition two Councillors attended an ICAC presentation that evening.

Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3

In accordance with Council’s 25 July 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting Resolution Ref: 255/19, the following grant applications were submitted on Wednesday 25 September 2019 under the NSW Government’s Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3 - lighting of Nicholson Oval, all weather sports court at Gravesend, maintenance to Warialda CWA Hall, Anglican Church Hall and Catholic Presbytery, additional display and storage area for Bingara Historical Society, and the upgrade of the amenities at the Warialda Swimming Pool.

Unfortunately, the Warialda High School – Sculptures in the Drought project was not submitted.

With a very severe time constraint, the decision was made by the General Manager to replace the Warialda High School project with the Crooble War Memorial Hall project. The Hall project was fully costed and developed having been previously submitted under the NSW Government’s My Community Grant. Although this project was unsuccessful in the My Community Grant voting, it proved that it holds much community support given it came third to the two projects that received funding from much larger centres. The project received over 650 votes. The Hall project will see the installation of air conditioning, water tanks and pumping system.

Rural Aid Australia - My Town Nomination

Council submitted a My Town nomination under Rural Aid Australia’s Sustainable Community Program. Council could not choose one of its communities over another so it nominated the Shire as a whole. If successful, Council will receive a minimum of \$100,000 over a five year period. In addition, Rural Aid’s Farm Army of volunteers (50 – 100) will spend a week in our Shire undertaking a range of town strategy projects. The nomination

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involved written and video components which were undertaken and completed by a number of staff in a professional manner.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the monthly Executive report for September 2019 be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
MINUTE 351/19**

THAT the monthly Executive report for September 2019 be received.

(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr D Coulton)

Cr Tiffany Galvin

Bingara Ambulance Personnel (Ref: 352/19)

Cr Galvin advised the meeting that a recently arrived Ambulance Station employee has decided to buy a home and make Bingara the family's home.

Cr Geoff Smith

Gwydir News (Ref: 353/19)

Cr Smith advised the meeting that although he has seen an improvement in the paper he has had some negative comments from residents regarding a lack of proof reading of the paper. For example one edition had the incorrect date.

Cr Geoff Smith

Warialda Fire Break (Ref: 354/19)

Cr Smith requested whether any further information has been received from Mr Peter Taylor from SMK. The meeting was advised that no further information has been received.

Following extensive discussion it was agreed that the Council's staff will commence removing black pines from the area surrounding Warialda following consultation with the surrounding neighbours.

Cr Tiffany Galvin

Foreshore Horses (Ref: 355/19)

Cr Galvin raised the problem being experienced with the Horse Riding business' horses having free range around the river foreshore including across from the Swimming Pool. There is definitely an increased risk of a horse colliding with a vehicle.

Crs Egan shared Cr Galvin's concern and pointed out the relatively poor condition of the horses. On Cr Egan's suggestion it was agreed that the owner of the horses be advised that he either places two large round bales of hay weekly on the foreshore for his horses or he remove all the horses from the town foreshore area.

Cr Tiffany Galvin

Water restrictions (Ref: 356/19)

Cr Galvin raised the possibility of moving onto a higher level of water restrictions above Level 1. The meeting was advised that the Level 1 restriction was placed on water use not because it is required but as an empathetic gesture in support of other communities in far more dire straits regarding water availability.

It was also suggested that Inverell Shire is contacted and requested to move to Level 1 water restrictions as well, which will be done.

Cr Tiffany Galvin

LGNSW Annual Conference (Ref: 357/19)

Cr Galvin together with Crs. Egan and Moore (and Cr Dixon OAM who was absent) thanked the Council for the opportunity to attend the conference.

Cr Egan advised the meeting that one of the Council's motions, regarding Aboriginal land, was not dealt with following the untruthful intervention of an Indigenous Sydney Based Councillor.

Cr Egan also mentioned that Willoughby City Mayor and some Councillors invited the Gwydir delegation to dinner, which was very pleasant.

Cr Frances Young

Trees under stress - All Nations Hill and Junction Street (Ref: 358/19)

Cr Young raised the conditions of the trees in the above locations and whether watering could relieve the current stress evident with these trees. The meeting was advised that the concern raised would be investigated.

Cr Frances Young

Promotional Material for visitors (Ref: 359/19)

Cr Young asked if promotional material regarding the Sporting Club, especially its new curtesy bus, could be promoted to visitors in town especially the riverside campers. Cr Young was advised to organise with Mrs G Standerwick.

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Cr Frances Young

Events (Ref: 360/19)

Cr Young advised the meeting of two events upcoming:

Firstly, the Art Word Place Official Exhibition opening at the Tamworth Regional Gallery on Friday 1st November 2019 featuring local Gwydir Shire artists; and;

Secondly, the Murray Darling Association Conference currently being held in Toowoomba.

Cr Frances Young

Bike Ride Trail to Myall Creek Memorial Site (Ref: 361/19)

Cr Young requested an update on the proposed rest areas for the proposed bike trail out to Myall Creek, which was provided.

Cr Catherine Egan

2021 CMCA Rally (Ref: 362/19)

Cr Egan asked if any further correspondence has been received regarding this proposed rally.

The meeting was advised that no further contact has been received.

Cr David Coulton

Bushfire Management Committee (Ref: 363/19)

Cr D Coulton advised the meeting that he attended the subject meeting. At the meeting the Council's proposal to make Warialda safer with an adequate surrounding fire break was outlined and there was little concern expressed within the meeting.

Cr David Coulton

Weight of Loads Committee (WoL) (Ref: 364/19)

Cr D Coulton advised the meeting that the WoL Committee Meeting set down for 4th November 2019 has been cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

The Council's membership to the WoL will cease on 5th January 2020.

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General Manager

Aionious (Ref: 365/19)

The General Manager advised the meeting of the outcome from the recent meeting with a representative from Aionious.

Meeting closed 12.10 pm