



# Ordinary Council

## LATE REPORTS

### Business Paper

**date of meeting:** Wednesday, 17 April 2013

**location:** Council Chambers, Port Macquarie

**time:** 5.30pm

**Note:** Council is distributing this agenda on the strict understanding that the publication and/or announcement of any material from the Paper before the meeting not be such as to presume the outcome of consideration of the matters thereon.



**PORT MACQUARIE  
HASTINGS**

**Council's Vision**

A sustainable high quality of life for all.

**Council's Mission**

To provide regional leadership and meet the community's needs in an equitable and inclusive way that enhances the area's environmental, social and economic qualities.

**Council's Corporate Values**

- ★ Sustainability
- ★ Excellence in Service Delivery
- ★ Consultation and Communication
- ★ Openness and Accountability
- ★ Community Advocacy

**Council's Guiding Principles**

- ★ Ensuring good governance
- ★ Looking after our people
- ★ Helping our community prosper
- ★ Looking after our environment
- ★ Planning & providing our infrastructure



**PORT MACQUARIE  
HASTINGS**

## How Members of the Public Can Have Their Say at Council Meetings

Council has a commitment to providing members of the public with an input into Council's decision making. The Council's Code of Meeting Practice provides two (2) avenues for members of the public to address Council on issues of interest or concern at the Ordinary Council Meeting. These are:

### Addressing Council on an Agenda Item:

If the matter **is** listed in the Council Business Paper, you can request to address Council by:

- Completing the *Request to Speak on an Agenda Item at a Council Meeting*, which can be obtained from Council's Offices at Laurieton, Port Macquarie and Wauchope or by downloading it from Council's website.
- On-line at <http://www.hastings.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2924-addressing-a-council-meeting-in-relation-to-an-agenda-item.asp?intSiteID=1>

**Your request to address Council must be received by Council no later than 4:30pm on the day prior to the Council Meeting.**

Council's Code of Meeting Practice sets out the following guidelines for addressing Council:

- Addresses will be limited to 5 minutes.
- If you wish any written information, drawings or photos to be distributed to the Council to support the address, two (2) copies should be provided to the Group Manager Governance & Executive Services prior to the commencement of the meeting.
- Where speakers wish to make an audio visual presentation, a copy is to be provided to the Group Manager Governance & Executive Services by 4.30pm on the day prior to the Council Meeting.
- Council will permit only two (2) speakers "Supporting" and two (2) speakers "Opposing" the *Recommendation* contained in the Business Paper. If there are more than two speakers supporting and opposing, the Mayor will request the speakers to determine who will address Council.

### Addressing Council in the Public Forum:

If the matter **is not** listed in the Council Business Paper, you can request to address Council by:

- Completing the *Request to Speak in the Public Forum at Ordinary Council Meeting*, which can be obtained from Council's Offices at Laurieton, Port Macquarie and Wauchope or by downloading it from Council's website.
- On-line at <http://www.hastings.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2926-addressing-council-in-the-council-meeting-public-forum.asp?intSiteID=1>

**Your request to address Council must be received by Council no later than 4:30pm on the day prior to the Council Meeting.**

A maximum of eight (8) speakers will be heard in the Public Forum. Each speaker will be limited to 5 minutes. Council may ask questions of speakers but speakers **cannot** ask questions of Council.

Council will not determine matters raised in the Public Forum session, however may resolve to call for a further report, when appropriate.

Speakers will be allowed to address Council in the Public Forum on the same issue no more than three (3) times in each calendar year. (Representatives of incorporated community groups may be exempted from this restriction).



**PORT MACQUARIE  
HASTINGS**

# Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday, 17 April 2013

## LATE REPORTS

### Items of Business

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**Item: 06.02**

**Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE - RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM THE MAYOR'S SPORTING FUND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 7 MARCH 2013**

**Mayor, Peter Besseling**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council, pursuant to provisions of Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993, grant financial assistance from the Mayor's Sporting Fund to Team Travers Boxing in the amount of \$1,000.00 (ex GST) to assist with the expenses they would have incurred competing at the Australian Boxing Titles held in South Australia from 9 - 16 February 2013 inclusive.**

## **Discussion**

The Port Macquarie-Hastings has a fine tradition of outstanding talent when it comes to sporting ability and sports achievements at all levels. With this tradition comes awareness for the community to recognise and nurture our young local sporting talents. A major problem associated with developing our local sporting talent has been the lack of financial assistance available to athletes in order that they may pursue their sporting goals.

Pursuing sporting dreams, in reality, is an expensive exercise. Athletes must travel extensively in order to face competitors, attend training camps and source new opportunities within their chosen sport. Increasingly, sports people turn to the local community and businesses for financial assistance. It is from these requests that in 1999 the Mayor's Sporting Fund) was established.

In 1999 the then Mayor, Wayne Richards, recognised the need for such a fund after receiving numerous requests for financial assistance from young local athletes or their parents to assist their child to compete at an elite level. The Mayor acknowledged that young athletes selected to compete in State; National or International competitions incur considerable costs, as Council had no specific fund to help out, and the Mayor was only able to pass on their requests to local businesses. The formation of the Mayor's Sporting Fund provided the opportunity for young local athletes to make application to Council for assistance to help ease this financial strain placed on these families by the sporting success of their children.

The Mayor's Sporting Fund holds two major fund raising events each year. The Coca Cola Mayor's Sporting Fund Golf Day Challenge and the Coca Cola Mayor's Sporting Fund Golden Thong Bowls Day Challenge. Since the Fund's formation, over \$225,000 has been distributed to young local athletes selected to compete at State, National and International competitions to assist them in meeting the costs they will incur travelling and competing at such an elite level.

The Mayor's Sporting Fund Sub-Committee at its meeting held on 7 March 2013 considered the following applications for financial assistance:

1. Team Travers Boxing be granted \$1,000.00 to assist with the expenses they would have incurred competing at the Australian Boxing Titles held in South Australia.

**Attachments**

Nil

## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

### What are we trying to achieve?

Our population growth is supported through public infrastructure, land use and development strategies that create a connected, sustainable and accessible community.

### What will the result be?

- Supported and integrated communities.
- Infrastructure provision and maintenance that respects community expectations and needs.
- A natural environment that can be accessed by a network of footpaths, cycleways, coastal and hinterland walkways.
- Accessible, convenient and affordable public transport.
- Employment and population growth that is clustered within urban centres.

### How do we get there?

- 5.1 Create and maintain integrated transport system that eases access between population centres and services.
- 5.2 Ensure transport options are safe, functional and meet access needs across the Local Government Area.
- 5.3 Develop and enhance quality open space and recreational facilities.
- 5.4 Plan settlements to accommodate a range of compatible land uses and projected population growth.

## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

**Item:** 12.07

**Subject:** HASTINGS DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY LIMITATIONS,  
OPPORTUNITIES AND UPGRADES

**Presented by:** Infrastructure & Asset Management, Jeffery Sharp

### Alignment with Delivery Program

5.5.1 Plan, investigate and design for the delivery of water supply assets.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the information provided in the Hastings District Water Supply Limitation, Opportunities and Upgrades report be noted.**

### Executive Summary

At the Ordinary Council meeting of 20 February 2013, it was resolved that a report be provided to Council's 17 April 2013 Meeting, as to:

1. The operation of the Koree Island Pumping Station upon the Hastings River including details of constraints affecting the ability to pump water from the Hastings River to Council's potable water storage facilities (such a Cowarra Dam) and options available to lessen those constraints such as enhanced water filtration infrastructure; and
2. The current position both physically and legally as to the use of recycled water within the Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Government Area for both potable and non-potable uses including details of any strategy of Council currently in the process of being implemented.

### Discussion

#### Hastings District Water Supply Operations

River water for the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council water supply scheme is pumped from the Hastings River by pumping stations located at Koree Island near Wauchope. There are three pumping stations, with Koree #1 (130 litres / second) being the original scheme pump station, followed by Koree #2 (600 litres / second) and finally Koree #3 (1200 litres /second).

Operation of the river water pumping stations is subject to a number of parameters, namely water quality (nutrients, turbidity), minimum environmental flow licence requirements and electricity tariffs.

Koree #1 is currently not in operation, however Councillors will note funding is proposed to be directed to this site in order to refurbish the pump station in the future.



## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

This will allow Council to pump water when river conditions are relatively low. Koree #1 also has the advantage of having the lowest intakes of all the pumping stations. At present if Koree #2 is operated during low flows to feed the Wauchope treatment plant, pumps are cavitating due to limited suction head.

Council operate and maintain high voltage electrical equipment (3,300 volt) to run both Koree #2 and #3 pump stations. Under current contract arrangements, different tariffs apply to off peak (weekday 10pm - 7am + weekends), shoulder (weekday 9am - 5pm + 8pm - 10pm) and peak periods (weekday 7am - 9am + 5pm - 8pm).

Each tariff classification is a two part arrangement, consisting of a demand charge and a usage charge. For example, if Koree #3 pump station is operating at full capacity (both pumps running), the following charges would apply:

*Each month, the demand cost for off peak is \$4,900 and a kW/h rate of \$9.97.*

*If Council pumps during shoulder tariff, an additional penalty of \$17,239 will apply for the month and usage rate climbs to \$14.45 kW/h.*

*Pumping during peak tariff will attract an additional penalty again of \$17,239 per month plus usage rate climbs to \$14.93 kW/ hour.*

*Therefore, should pumping be undertaken through all three tariff classifications for one day only, a demand charge of \$39,378 would apply for the month before any usage costs are added. For this reason, breaking tariff near the end of a month is not normal practise.*

Pumped water is lifted from the Hastings River to reservoirs located at Rosewood Road. Top water level at these reservoirs is 100 metres above sea level and distribution to either Cowarra Dam (TWL 58.8), or Port Macquarie Dam (TWL 23.8) is effected by gravity, that is, not pumped.

The current trunk main configuration allows 400litres/second inflow to Port Macquarie Dam or 1200 litres/second into Cowarra Dam. It follows that more efficiency would be gained by transferring water firstly to Cowarra Dam when conditions are ideal. The constraint is that there is only one trunk main into Cowarra Dam, so water is either fed into the dam, or the system reversed and water is pumped out.

Councillors will note in the works program a figure for the Southern Arm Trunk Main (SATM), completion of the trunk main from Cowarra Dam to the existing SATM at Houston Mitchell Drive will allow water to be fed into Cowarra Dam from the Hastings River and also feed Port Macquarie dam at the same time, therefore allowing more efficient water transfer when conditions allow.

Cowarra Dam does not direct feed to consumers, the current arrangement has water pumped from Port Macquarie dam to Transit Hill, then gravity flow through Lake Cathie, Bonny Hills, Camden Haven and Kew / Kendall. Completion of the SATM also allows a contingency in the operation of the scheme that currently does not exist.

With respect to filtration, the greater part of the Port Macquarie-Hastings scheme is unfiltered. The village schemes have treatment plants, while Wauchope, Beechwood, King Creek etc are serviced by the Wauchope WTP. Council will always rely on

## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

storage in Cowarra and Port Macquarie dams because of fluctuating river conditions. Even if water treatment plants were constructed at both dams, there would be little change to current operating parameters where water quality in the dams will always be the prime consideration. Allowing nutrient rich water into storages will allow blue green algae and other unwanted outbreaks to occur, severely reducing capacity of a treatment plant and potentially introducing toxins into the water supply. The best way to minimise potential for poor water quality in storages is to prevent it from happening in the first place, by preventing nutrients and turbid water into the dams.

Future scheme considerations will include water treatment plants for both Port Macquarie dam and Cowarra Dam, however these will be at significant capital and operational cost and at the present time the initial focus will be to better utilise the transfer of water between the two dams.

Additionally, Council is currently investigating the feasibility of utilising Hansons Quarry following its decommissioning as an active site for the storage of river water with higher nutrient levels than those currently extracted. Should this prove feasible and cost effective, the intention would then be to pump the stored water to the Wauchope water treatment plant. Current investigations include long term environmental remediation liability and suitability for use in a water storage capacity. A budget figure is included in 2013/14 financial year for this purpose.

### Port Macquarie Hastings Council - Recycled and Reclaimed Water

All recycled water supplied to any users by Council requires a Section 60 approval from the NSW Office of Water. In simple terms this will usually mean that a risk assessment and recycled water management plan need to be completed for any new schemes, a copy of the information sought is provided as an attachment to this report.

In 2007, Port Macquarie-Hastings Council commissioned it's 6 star rated Port Macquarie Reclaimed Water Scheme and in 2008 gained approval from the then NSW Department of Water and Energy allowing Council to deliver highly treated reclaimed water to industrial and commercial customers including nurseries, bowling greens, car wash facilities, Council parks and gardens sporting fields, toilet flushing in many public amenity buildings and sewage pumping station wash down water.

Council has invested over \$15 million in the scheme and is currently constructing an additional 4.7 kilometres of reclaimed pipelines at a cost of \$700,000 to service additional commercial customers and construct Stage 1 of the supply pipeline to the Thrumster Urban Release Area. The current reclaimed water network is highlighted as an attachment.

Early lead-in works at Thrumster are well underway including the construction of reclaimed water pipelines to the town centre, a school and exhibition home village. It is not yet economical to provide reclaimed water to the small number of early reclaimed water connections therefore Council has installed one metered cross-connection between its potable and its reclaimed pipe systems to enable the long term dual plumbing to proceed.

### The Port Macquarie Reclaimed Water Treatment Processes and Scheme Operation

## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

Tertiary treated effluent is pumped from the Port Macquarie Sewage Treatment Plant to the Port Macquarie Reclaimed Water Treatment Plant where it undergoes the following treatment processes:

- Chloramination disinfection
- Ultraviolet disinfection
- Microfiltration
- Reverse Osmosis
- Ultraviolet disinfection
- Sodium Hypochlorite disinfection

The reclaimed water is then pumped to a dedicated reservoir and flows under gravity to customers reclaimed water services via a 13 kilometres "purple pipe" network.

The scheme has been in operation since 2008 and currently delivers 500 kilolitres per day to commercial/industrial customers in Port Macquarie. Council is continuing to expand the pipeline system constructing an additional 4.7km of pipeline in the last 2 years to supply additional customers and complete Stage 1 of the supply pipeline to the Thrumster Urban Release Area.

The current working capacity of the plant is one Megalitre per day with capacity to expand to two Megalitres per day.

The scheme will soon be extended to supply the Thrumster Urban Release Area by constructing Stage 2, a 6.5km pipeline and pumping station and then, Stage 3, the Thrumster reclaimed water reservoir.

Dual reticulation is an integral part of the Thrumster infrastructure strategy and, as stated above, reclaimed water pipelines are already in place in the Thrumster Town Centre.

Recently Council applied for a revision to the 2008 Section 60 Approval and was successful in gaining additional approval to utilise reclaimed water for commercial washing machine usage and irrigation of food crops.

Therefore the scheme now has NSW Office of Water Local Government Act Section 60 approval for the following:

### *Council*

- Hand water irrigation of public gardens
- Uncontrolled public access automatic irrigation of playing fields & Town Green (night time)
- Toilet flushing
- Amenities washdown
- Make-up water for sewerage dewatering process
- Sewage pumping station automatic well washing

### *Approved Tanker operators*

- Dust suppression

### *Approved commercial customers*

- Irrigation of gardens (hand watering and automatic)

## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

- Irrigation of food crops
- Vehicle washing and detailing
- Toilet flushing
- Washing machine usage

### *Status of Section 60 Approvals for Dual Reticulation*

Council has commenced discussion with the NSW Office of Water representatives, Glenn George and Nanda Altavilla, Recycled Water Assessment Specialist, and has engaged experienced Drinking Recycled and Water Guideline specialists, Atom Consulting Pty Ltd to manage the Section 60 approval process. Council anticipates that the Section 60 approval process will be completed by December 2013.

Council also intends to follow a similar process in order to obtain Section 60 approval for dual reticulation for Area 14 being supplied by the recently augmented Bonny Hills Sewage Treatment Plant. It is anticipated that a consultant will be engaged in the 2013/14 financial year to manage this approval process.

### Effluent Reuse at Wauchope and Kew

Council also operate effluent reuse schemes at the Wauchope and Kew Sewage Treatment Plants. Effluent from the Wauchope STP is pumped to adjacent farms and to the Wauchope Golf Course for irrigation. Effluent from the Kew STP is pumped to the Camden Haven Golf Course and the adjacent forest plantation for irrigation. These are existing schemes and any variation or additional users would require a Section 60 approval.

### HEMS Scheme

In response to ongoing effluent disposal issues within the Local Government Area (LGA), and the requirement of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in the approval given to the augmentation of the Port Macquarie Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) in 1995, Council following much public consultation, adopted the Hastings Effluent Management Strategy (HEMS) in November 1998.

Options were developed for all the existing plants based around the catchments into which they discharge effluent. At the time HEMS adopted the broad principles of maximising the beneficial reuse of effluent within the LGA whilst maintaining in the short-term the existing disposal system already in place.

The effluent reuse markets appearing most likely to provide for large scale irrigation included the dairy industry and other agricultural undertakings of the region, vineyards and Council and privately owned playing fields throughout the LGA. This would be achieved either locally around STP's or within catchments, or by ultimately constructing a network of effluent mains capable of transferring effluent from plant to plant within the LGA or to reuse markets yet to be established.

### Southern Effluent Pipeline Network

In response to the ongoing issues at the LCBH STP, and under the banner of HEMS, Council adopted in March 2004 to continue to develop a southern effluent pipeline system based on a concept developed by Hunter Water Australia (HWA), transferring

## Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

effluent from the LCBH STP to effluent reuse markets in the southern area of the LGA. The concept was developed to reduce the amount of effluent discharge to the sand dunes, maximise the amount of reuse in the area and cater for future development in the southern LGA coastal area.

The effluent pipeline from the Bonny Hills STP to the Port Macquarie golf club has now been completed and Council is currently pursuing Section 60 approval for this scheme.

An application for the reuse of effluent from the recently augmented Camden Haven STP for irrigation of local estate areas is also underway in consultation with the land owners to make use of the high quality effluent from the STP.

Continued development of this and other reuse schemes has a direct benefit in potable water offset usage for the entire LGA. PMHC remains at the forefront of reclaimed water use as a direct offset of potable water with the ongoing operation of the Port Macquarie reclaimed plant and the quality of water produced through that process.

### Options

There no options presented with this information report.

### Community Engagement & Internal Consultation

There has been previous community consultation of the adoption of both the Hastings District Water Supply and Port Macquarie-Hastings Sewerage Schemes development.

In producing this information report there has been internal consultation between the Director Infrastructure Services and many water and sewerage section staff.

### Planning & Policy Implications

There are no planning or policy implications directly associated with this report.

### Financial & Economic Implications

Future works programs presented to Council which will continue to develop both the water supply and sewerage schemes hold the financial and economic implications of this report.

Delivery of current projects and programs do not have any additional impact as a result of this report.

### Attachments

1. Hastings Water Supply - Future Planning
2. Hastings Water Supply Locality Map
3. Information to be provided with Section 60 recycled water applications
4. Existing and proposed reclaimed water mains in Port Macquarie

Planning and Providing Our Infrastructure

INFRASTRUCTURE

