
PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Peta Pinson (Mayor)
Councillor Lisa Intemann (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Sharon Griffiths
Councillor Peter Alley
Councillor Geoff Hawkins

Other Attendees:

Chief Executive Officer (Dr Clare Allen)
Director Corporate Performance (Rebecca Olsen)
Director Development and Environment (Melissa Watkins)
Director Infrastructure (Dan Bylsma)
Group Manager Governance (Michael Ferguson)
Governance Support Officer (Bronwyn Lyon)

The meeting opened at 5:00pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor opened the Meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all in attendance in the Chamber and on line.

02 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: Griffiths/Hawkins

That the apology received from Councillor R Turner be accepted.

CARRIED: 5/0
FOR: Alley, Griffiths, Hawkins, Intemann and Pinson
AGAINST: Nil

03 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

04.01 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR LEE DIXON

RESOLVED: Intemann/Hawkins

That Council:

1. Request the Chief Executive Officer write to the Electoral Commissioner, the Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the Chief Executive of Local Government NSW advising of Councillor Dixon's resignation as required under Section 285(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005.
2. Note that Council is not required to apply to the Minister for Local Government The Hon. Shelley Hancock MP, seeking application to dispense with a by-election to replace the casual vacancy left following the recent resignation of Councillor Lee Dixon, in line with Section 294 (2) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993.
3. Place on record its gratitude and appreciation to Lee Dixon for his service to Council and the Port Macquarie-Hastings community as a Councillor for the period 10 September 2016 to 28 February 2021, including an unplanned extension of the normal Council term due to COVID-19.

CARRIED: 5/0

FOR: Alley, Griffiths, Hawkins, Intemann and Pinson

AGAINST: Nil

07.01 OCEAN DRIVE DUPLICATION PROJECT

MOVED: Alley/Hawkins

That Council:

1. Note the current funding gap of \$30 Million for the Ocean Drive Duplication project.
2. Note the at risk nature of the \$60 Million State Government funding for this project should the shortfall amount of \$30 Million remain un-funded.
3. Note that Council needs to ensure that its overall debt levels do not unreasonably overburden future ratepayers and adversely impact on the services delivered.
4. Note resolution 10.08 Borrowing for Projects from 16 October 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting:

RESOLVED: Levido/Intemann

That Council:

1. *Note the importance of the following projects and prioritise them for planning and design:*
 - a) *Upgrade of Boundary Street, Port Macquarie from its intersection with Hastings River Drive to the Port Macquarie Airport entry based on current investigations and planning in an amount of \$15,000,000.00 for the complete project.*

- b) Carry out upgrade works to Bril Bril Road, Rollands Plains based on prior discussions and investigations with the local community in an amount of \$6,000,000.00 for the complete project.
 - c) Carry out further works with respect to the “Schools to Schools” project from Kendall Public School, Kendall to Laurieton Public School, Laurieton, with reference to the existing Strategic Alignment Study and the high priority sections identified in consultation with the Schools to Schools local committee.
 - d) Carry out further works with respect to the “Beach 2 Beach” project from North Haven to Dunbogan, with reference to the proposed Strategic Alignment Study and in consultation with the Beach 2 Beach local committee.
 - e) Carry out investigations and planning with respect to undertaking tidal improvements to that part of the Lake Innes and Lake Cathie Estuarine System from the Ocean Drive bridge in a westerly direction.
2. Add to the 2019-2020 Operational Plan the components of planning and design for the projects listed above so as to substantially progress each, using internal and/or contracted resources so as to not prevent completion of other existing projects in the 2019-2020 operational plan.
 3. Request the General Manager to add the remaining planning and design work for the projects listed above, plus substantial further work on each project, to the draft 2020-2021 Operational Plan.
 4. Request the General Manager to fund the nominated planning and design work specified in point 2, above, with loan borrowings raised immediately to the amount of \$2,400,000.00.
 5. Request the General Manager to consider (in the current 2019-2020 operational plan, the draft 2020-2021 operational plan and in the review of the long term financial plan) the appropriate mitigation factors to offset the cashflow requirements (and operating performance impacts) of repaying the interest and principal associated with the above borrowings.
 6. Request the General Manager to consider additional borrowings up to \$25,000,000.00 in total to fund the balance of the projects listed 1a) and 1b) above and progressing the projects listed 1c), 1d) and 1e) above (in the draft 2020-2021 operational plan and in the review of the long term financial plan), together with the appropriate mitigation factors to offset the cash flow requirements (and operating performance impacts) of repaying the interest and principal associated with the additional borrowings.

CARRIED: 6/2

FOR: Alley, Dixon, Hawkins, Intemann, Levido and Turner

AGAINST: Griffiths and Pinson

5. Note that the detailed design of the upgrade of Boundary Street, Port Macquarie is due to be completed by June 2022 at a cost of \$900,000.
6. Confirm, as noted at the 16 October 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, the importance of:
 - a) The upgrade of Bril Bril Rd, Rollands Plains project.
 - b) Further works on both “Schools to Schools” and “Beach to Beach” projects.

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- c) Investigations and planning on the Lake Innes and Lake Cathie Estuarine System.
 7. Continue to finalise the detailed design of the Boundary Street, Port Macquarie works as noted at the 16 October 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, but cease to proceed with the remainder of the works until suitable funding can be identified, noting that this would reduce Council's current proposed forecast borrowings by an amount of \$14.1 Million.
 8. Fund the \$30 Million for the Ocean Drive Duplication project by borrowing \$25 Million and funding \$5 Million from Council Reserves in order to progress the construction tender advertisement as a priority.
 9. Note the opportunity costs of prioritising the Ocean Drive Duplication project over current proposed higher priority road network improvements including the Lake Road Duplication projects and John Oxley Drive duplication project.
 10. Continue to liaise with the Federal and State Governments for funding assistance to mitigate impact on current proposed projects and work programs.
 11. Prior to any recommendation to award the Ocean Drive Duplication construction contract:
 - a) Confirm the success, or otherwise, of significant additional funding assistance from the Federal and/or State Governments for the Ocean Drive Duplication project, Boundary Street Upgrade project, Lake Road Duplication projects and/or John Oxley Drive Duplication project.
 - b) Confirm the state government approval of the formal business case.
 - c) Finalise the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Government confirming the delivery partnership with respect to this project.
 12. Incorporate the Ocean Drive Duplication project and funding into the draft 2021/2022 Operational Plan and the Long Term Financial Plan.

AMENDMENT

MOVED: Pinson/Griffiths

That Council:

1. Note the current funding gap of \$30 Million for the Ocean Drive Duplication project.
2. Note the at risk nature of the \$60 Million State Government funding for this project should Council not fund the shortfall amount of \$30 Million.
3. Fund the \$30 Million by borrowing \$25 Million and funding \$5 Million from Council Reserves in order to progress the construction tender advertisement as a priority.
4. Note the opportunity costs of prioritising the Ocean Drive Duplication project over current proposed higher priority road network improvements including the Lake Road Duplication projects and John Oxley Drive duplication project.
5. Continue to liaise with the Federal and State Governments for funding assistance to mitigate impact on current proposed projects and work programs.
6. Confirm the success or otherwise of significant additional funding assistance from the Federal or State Governments for either the Ocean Drive Duplication project, Lake Road Duplication projects or John Oxley Drive Duplication project.

7. Incorporate the Ocean Drive Duplication project and funding into the draft 2021/2022 Operational Plan and the Long Term Financial Plan.

THE AMENDMENT WAS PUT AND WAS LOST

LOST: 2/3
FOR: Griffiths and Pinson
AGAINST: Alley, Hawkins and Intemann

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED

RESOLVED: Alley/Hawkins

That Council:

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2. Note the at risk nature of the \$60 Million State Government funding for this project should the shortfall amount of \$30 Million remain un-funded.
3. Note that Council needs to ensure that its overall debt levels do not unreasonably overburden future ratepayers and adversely impact on the services delivered.
4. Note resolution 10.08 Borrowing for Projects from 16 October 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting:

RESOLVED: Levido/Intemann

That Council:

7. *Note the importance of the following projects and prioritise them for planning and design:*
 - a) *Upgrade of Boundary Street, Port Macquarie from its intersection with Hastings River Drive to the Port Macquarie Airport entry based on current investigations and planning in an amount of \$15,000,000.00 for the complete project.*
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 - c) *Carry out further works with respect to the "Schools to Schools" project from Kendall Public School, Kendall to Laurieton Public School, Laurieton, with reference to the existing Strategic Alignment Study and the high priority sections identified in consultation with the Schools to Schools local committee.*
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 - e) *Carry out investigations and planning with respect to undertaking tidal improvements to that part of the Lake Innes and Lake Cathie Estuarine System from the Ocean Drive bridge in a westerly direction.*
8. *Add to the 2019-2020 Operational Plan the components of planning and design for the projects listed above so as to substantially progress*

- each, using internal and/or contracted resources so as to not prevent completion of other existing projects in the 2019-2020 operational plan.
9. Request the General Manager to add the remaining planning and design work for the projects listed above, plus substantial further work on each project, to the draft 2020-2021 Operational Plan.
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 11. Request the General Manager to consider (in the current 2019-2020 operational plan, the draft 2020-2021 operational plan and in the review of the long term financial plan) the appropriate mitigation factors to offset the cashflow requirements (and operating performance impacts) of repaying the interest and principal associated with the above borrowings.
 12. Request the General Manager to consider additional borrowings up to \$25,000,000.00 in total to fund the balance of the projects listed 1a) and 1b) above and progressing the projects listed 1c), 1d) and 1e) above (in the draft 2020-2021 operational plan and in the review of the long term financial plan), together with the appropriate mitigation factors to offset the cash flow requirements (and operating performance impacts) of repaying the interest and principal associated with the additional borrowings.

CARRIED: 6/2

FOR: Alley, Dixon, Hawkins, Intemann, Levido and Turner

AGAINST: Griffiths and Pinson

5. Note that the detailed design of the upgrade of Boundary Street, Port Macquarie is due to be completed by June 2022 at a cost of \$900,000.
6. Confirm, as noted at the 16 October 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, the importance of:
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 - b) Further works on both "Schools to Schools" and "Beach to Beach" projects.
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10. Continue to liaise with the Federal and State Governments for funding assistance to mitigate impact on current proposed projects and work programs.
11. Prior to any recommendation to award the Ocean Drive Duplication construction contract:

- a) Confirm the success, or otherwise, of significant additional funding assistance from the Federal and/or State Governments for the Ocean Drive Duplication project, Boundary Street Upgrade project, Lake Road Duplication projects and/or John Oxley Drive Duplication project.
 - b) Confirm the state government approval of the formal business case.
 - c) Finalise the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Government confirming the delivery partnership with respect to this project.
12. Incorporate the Ocean Drive Duplication project and funding into the draft 2021/2022 Operational Plan and the Long Term Financial Plan.

CARRIED: 5/0

FOR: Alley, Griffiths, Hawkins, Intemann and Pinson

AGAINST: Nil

The meeting closed at 5:45pm

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Peta Pinson
Mayor