

# **COBAR SHIRE COUNCIL**



## **ORDINARY MEETING SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2018**

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**CLAUSE 9A – COBAR MINERS MEMORIAL**

**FILE: P1-17 AOP REFERENCE: 1.5.2.3 ATTACHMENT: YES (PAGE 8-9)**

**AUTHOR: *General Manager, Peter Vlatko***

**Purpose**

1. To determine the matter is urgent for consideration at the Council Meeting.
2. Subject to being urgent the Council to consider the Cobar Miners Memorial project as a Council project in order to apply for grant funds.

**Background**

The matter is being considered urgent as there is a grant that has opened and is about to close.

Council has received the attached letter from Chair, Barry Knight, Cobar Miners Memorial Committee seeking the support of Council for a contribution of \$85,000 and applying for a grant under Councils name.

**Discussion**

The project is estimated to be \$400,000 and the Cobar Miners Memorial Committee have raised around \$100,000 to date.

However, the current grant is available for such a project and is considered to be more achievable if the Council was to apply for \$200,000 grant with the condition of 50:50 being applicable.

The request from the Committee is for Council to make a commitment of \$85,000 and apply for the grant under Cobar Shire Councils name.

One could argue that should Council be successful in obtaining the grant the construction and ongoing maintenance of the Memorial would fall to Councils responsibility given its construction on Council land.

**Options**

Council's options are:

1. Note the letter and not agree to provide \$85,000.
2. Agree to apply for the grant under Council name and seek the \$85,000 as a Debtor to be paid back to Council from the Cobar Miners Memorial Committee.
3. Agree to apply for the grant under Councils name and contribute \$85,000 towards the project.

Option 2 is not recommended as the potential for the funds to be repaid when the Memorial is already built may be very difficult.

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**Financial Implications**

Council has an allocation of \$100,000 within the 2017/2018 budget available for grant contributions towards Council projects.

Should Council agree with the request, the \$85,000 will be funded from this project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. **That Council note the Cobar Miners Memorial Committee letter and does not agree to provide the \$85,000 at this time.**

**OR:**

2. **That Council agrees to apply for \$200,000 grant funding for the Cobar Miners Memorial and contribute \$85,000 of Council funds with the balance to be provided by the Cobar Miners Memorial Committee.**

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**CLAUSE 10A – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUNDING DEED –  
AFFIXATION OF COUNCIL SEAL**

**FILE: G4-34, P1-5 & A9-16 AOP REFERENCE: 4.4.1 ATTACHMENT: NO  
AUTHOR: *Director of Corporate and Economic Development, Angela Shepherd***

**Purpose**

To obtain approval to affix the Council Seal to the Funding Deed of Agreement between Council and the NSW Department of Industry for the Stronger Country Communities Fund projects which are the New Adventure Playground – Drummond Park and Creation of Family BBQ and Picnic Area – Cobar Memorial Swimming Pool.

**Background**

Council was awarded Stronger Country Communities funds the New Adventure Playground – Drummond Park (\$345,820) and Creation of Family BBQ and Picnic Area – Cobar Memorial Swimming Pool (\$142,520).

The Funding Deeds of Agreement are to be signed by NSW Department of Industry and Councils Authorised Officer, General Manager, Peter Vlatko on behalf of Cobar Shire Council, under the seal of Council.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the General Manager be authorised to sign and execute the Stronger Country Communities Funding Deed under the Common Seal of Council for the projects: new Adventure Playground – Drummond Park and Creation of Family BBQ and Picnic Area – Cobar Memorial Swimming Pool.**

# **ATTACHMENTS**



## **ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

**THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2018**

# ~ REFERENCE TO ATTACHMENTS ~

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**PART A – ACTION**

*Page Number*

Clause 9A – Cobar Miners Memorial ..... 8-9

**THEY WERE MINERS. THEY WERE MEN. WE REMEMBER THEM.**

## *Cobar Miners Memorial*

13 February 2018

Councillors  
Cobar Shire Council  
PO Box 223  
Cobar 2835

### **Cobar Miners Memorial**

Dear Councillors

As you are aware, over the last 4 years our committee has been working towards having an appropriate memorial constructed in Cobar to commemorate the lives of the 187 men who have lost their lives whilst working in the mines of the Cobar LGA. Cobar is a mining town and will always be a mining town. Every loss of life impacts across the whole community and as such we believe it is a vital community project to establish somewhere where these men and the work they undertook is remembered.

To date we have prepared concept plans and Council has approved the DA for these plans. I appreciate the support Council has provided to this project. Our committee has been undertaking fundraising over the last 18 months to build the project and to date we have raised around \$100,000 from nearly 200 individual sponsors, from large companies to ordinary people who all want to see the project come to fruition.

We have had this project costed and a local contractor has provided a price of around \$400,000 to construct the memorial, undertake the landscaping of the area and signage required.

This memorial will be constructed on Council land in Heritage Park and will become a Council asset on completion. I am aware that the project is a priority in Council's planning documents, including the AOP and Delivery Program and has also been conveyed to government in their requests for infrastructure priorities for the Shire. Given we have nearly 200 individuals who have financially contributed to this project plus many more who have bought raffle tickets, merchandise and supported buskers, it is clearly a community priority too. In addition, this committee is constantly seeking political support that is translated into grant funding for the project.

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**Chair: Barry Knight**  
**cobarminersmemorial@gmail.com**  
**0447 099 323**



This committee is not incorporated. We cannot apply for grants on our own and have always sought assistance from Council in this regard. Council representatives sit on this committee and are a very key part of the committee and construction will be a Council project.

Council has assisted with the writing of a number of grants in the past where we have used the funds raised by this committee as the co-contribution. Whilst we target grants that do not require a full 50:50 matching funds, some simply require that. In addition, some grants have funding limits and these limits do not always allow us to seek enough funds to complete the project, so make us ineligible to apply. Again, all grant applications are for Council projects, this committee is simply providing the co-contribution and we anticipate we will have input during construction in a similar vein to the skate park project which was driven by the community, co-contributions were sought outside of Council and used for a Council grant application.

I am now seeking Council's support of \$85,000 to allow us, through Council, to seek grants that require matching funding or where funding limits are not high enough to complete the project. Whilst not all grants do require matching funds, and we will continue to seek out these, as a small volunteer committee we are not able to raise the remaining funds without Council's support. We will continue to seek as much sponsorship as possible, however this community project can be brought forward with Council's financial support.

With Council's support, this project could come to fruition in a more timely manner. We are very keen to have it as a key feature of Cobar's 150 year celebration. Providing \$85,000 will assist us to achieve this goal for the whole community.

I thank you for your consideration and am keen to talk about this proposal in more detail in a Council workshop if invited. Alternatively Council may like to ensure the funds are available immediately for the purposes of seeking grants. This would allow a grant to be submitted this month.

Again, I thank Council for their support to date.

Regards

Barry Knight  
Chair  
Cobar Miners Memorial Committee

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