
**MINUTES OF THE RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT BERANGABAH STATION ON WEDNESDAY 6
MAY 2015 COMMENCING AT 11:22AM**

PRESENT

George Milllear (Tiltagoona), Craig Hudson (Amphitheatre), Andrew Paul (Red Tank Station), Andrew Farnsworth (Innesowen), Robert, Ann and Graham Vagg (WingDing Station), Barry and Pauline Oliver (Kaleno Station), Paul and Donna Whytcross (Kia-Ora Station), Jenni Rogers (Kulwin Station), Diane Noble (Karwarn Station), Phil and Mary Bruce (Pine Ridge), Lindsay Markey, Josh Robertson, Ken and Terri Hogan, Dave Sinclair, Leonie Sinclair (Berangabah Station), Councillor Peter Abbott (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Bob Sinclair (Cobar Shire Council), Gary Woodman (General Manager, Cobar Shire Council), Owen Johns (Acting Director of Engineering Services, Cobar Shire Council), Maurice Bell (Roads Manager, Cobar Shire Council), Anil De Silva (Engineering Support Manager, Cobar Shire Council) and Adrienne Pierini (Trainee Civil Engineer, Cobar Shire Council).

Due to an apology from Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM, Councillor Peter Abbott was requested and agreed to chair the meeting.

APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDATION: That the apologies received from Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM (Cobar Shire Council), Councillors Greg Martin, Jarrod Marsden, Peter Maxwell and Marsha Isbester (Cobar Shire Council), Brett Hallcroft (Construction Supervisor, Cobar Shire Council), Joe and Mel Hughes (Belarabon), Robert and Rhonda Hanson (Noona Station), Kevin and Anne-Marie Murphy (Neckarbo), Justin McClure (Kallara Station) and Steve Roberts (Ashleigh Downs) be accepted.

Peter Abbott/Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION: That the minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 4 February 2015 at the Mount Hope Community Hall be adopted as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Bob Sinclair/George Milllear

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Nil.
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STATUS REPORT

- Item 2 – Council hasn't received a letter from the Tilpa community. Letter was accidentally sent to Geographical Names Board instead;
 - Item 4 – completed;
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- Item 11 – change to action by Roads Manager;
 - Item 49 – Contractor will be undertaking weed control work on the highway in a few weeks time; will request contractor to also do some work on RR7518 and SR10 on his way past;
 - Item 50 – The approaches need to be dug out and re-compacted (they are subsiding as the water is washing away the soil underneath). Funding opportunities are doubtful;
 - Item 51 – Need to obtain funding for resealing;
 - Item 52 – Need to review funding allocations to see if can be done. Roads Manager and Director of Engineering Services to review and discuss;
 - Item 54 – Report to be submitted at next Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting;
 - Item 57 – change to action by Roads Manager. Grid in question is dangerous as the concrete is falling in and is located on the boundary of Keewong and Pine Hill;
 - Item 58 – completed;
 - Item 59 – noted and completed;
 - Item 60 – completed;
 - Item 65 – completed;
 - Item 68 – completed. Rates notices were sent out at the correct time by Council, the delay was due to Australia Post;
 - Item 69 – the areas in question are located near Keewong and between the bitumen sealed sections on the Cobar end of The Wooltrack;
 - Write to Simon Fryer in regards to accessing water for possible road works on Yathong Road (SR12) if available (well near Irymple);
 - Investigate possible water sources for road works on The Wooltrack, i.e. write to property owners along The Wooltrack requesting permission to use water if available.

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the Status Report be received and noted and items 4, 58, 59, 60, 65 and 68 be removed.

Gary Woodman/Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

EXPENDITURE REPORTS

- Approximately \$14,000 to \$15,000 left on Shire Roads budget for this financial year – to be used for emergency maintenance only;

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the expenditure reports be received and noted.

Bob Sinclair/Gary Woodman

CARRIED

MAINTENANCE OF STOCK CONTROL STRUCTURES

- Grids are owned by the property owner and thus the maintenance, including the 20m approach either side, are the responsibility of the property owner.

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the Maintenance of Stock Control Structures Report be received and noted.

Gary Woodman/Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

PRIORITY SECTIONS OF THE WOOLTRACK

Two priority sections of The Wooltrack were identified by the Committee. They recommend with the available funding that:

- The seal be extended as far as possible at the Cobar end of The Wooltrack; or
- The s-bends at “The Cottage” located on The Wooltrack (approximately 90km from Cobar) be re-aligned (i.e. survey done) and section sealed.

RECOMMENDATION: That the two priority sections of The Wooltrack identified by the Rural Roads Advisory Committee be recommended to The Wooltrack Advisory Committee for future works.

Bob Sinclair/Barry Oliver

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

Gary Woodman discussed not being able to access the gravel pit in the National Park near Yathong Road (SR12) due to licensing restrictions and that tanks and pits on National Parks across the State are being filled in.

Andrew Paul enquired into the possibility of changing the format of the expenditure reports so that costs are itemised for each road rather than a running total for the year. Gary Woodman advised that to do this would take a lot of time and that the description of works column is provided in the reports for this reason.

Andrew Paul also enquired into funding that Moree Plains Shire Council received (approximately \$40 million). Gary Woodman advised that this was ‘betterment’ funding that was in line with Queensland due to the 2011 floods and was an exception at the time.

Bob Sinclair requested a report be done on Grain Road (SR20) in regards to the grading arrangement made with Rodney Nancarrow, costs and standard of works. Gary Woodman advised that this arrangement is being run on a trial basis as was passed by Council and that a detailed report will be put to Council at the end of the trial period for review.

Bob Sinclair also urged all landholders to write a letter to the Minister for Roads and Transport in regards to obtaining funding for The Wooltrack to be sealed.

Andrew Farnsworth advised that the “Windara bend” on Tiltagoona Road (RR7518) has become dangerous since the unsealed re-alignment done last year. Apparently road trains are having problems maneuvering around the bend, especially with oncoming traffic. Possibly needs to be widened about 1m on the outside of the bend to fix the problem.

Andrew Farnsworth also discussed the dangerous bends on Tipping Way (MR411). Maurice Bell advised that advisory speed signs have been erected on the bends where required.

Bob Sinclair enquired as to when grading works will start on The Wooltrack. Maurice Bell advised that firstly water needs to be sourced before works can commence. If this can be done quickly, works could commence within the next few weeks.

Craig Hudson advised that David Hughes (Belarabon) has indicated that he has water available for use in road works.

Diane Noble enquired as to when works on Yathong Road (SR12) will be undertaken. Maurice Bell advised that there will be some capital improvement works undertaken on SR12 this financial year.

Barry Oliver advised that the Bloomfield Road (SR11) sign at the intersection with The Wooltrack is still missing and needs to be replaced.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 5 August 2015 at Tilpa commencing at 11:00am.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1:40PM.