
**MINUTES OF THE RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT COBAR SHIRE COUNCIL ON
24 NOVEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 12PM**

PRESENT

Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM (Cobar Shire Council), Deputy Mayor Peter Abbott (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Janine Lea-Barrett (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Jarrod Marsden (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Greg Martin (Cobar Shire Council), Pauline Oliver (Kaleno), Barry Oliver (Kaleno), John Gally (Mulya), Sandra Gally (Mulya), George Milliar (Tiltagoona), Peter Vlatko (Cobar Shire Council), Kym Miller (Cobar Shire Council), Craig Hudson (Cobar Shire Council), Maurice Bell (Cobar Shire Council), Adrienne Pierini (Cobar Shire Council), Andrew Farnsworth (Innesowen), Councillor Bob Sinclair (Berangabah) and Robyn Goonrey (Cobar Shire Council).

APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDATION: That the apologies received from Stephen Taylor (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Tracey Kings (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Chris Lehman (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Peter Yench (Cobar Shire Council), Councillor Peter Maxwell (Cobar Shire Council), John Bennett (Cobar Police), Justin and Julie McClure (Kallara) be accepted.

CARRIED

ITEM 1 - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

FILE: R5-36

Author: *Director of Engineering Services, Stephen Taylor*

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee adopt the Minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 3 August 2016 as a true and accurate reflection of the proceedings of that Meeting.

Andrew Farnsworth / John Gally

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Discussion on grids – defer to February 2017 meeting;
- Greg Martin informed the meeting that other Councils have developed a program of sealing the approach and departure to grids. Andrew Farnsworth moved that Council source additional funding to carry out this work, however the Committee does not want funding already allocated to road works to be used for a grid maintenance program.
- Tilpa Weir Camp Ground – waiting on information from Julie McClure;
- Capital Expenditure: Currently work is being carried out on Kidman Way and heavy patching on Barrier Highway. A crew is currently working on Balowra Road.
- Work will commence on Acres Billabong when conditions permit (when it dries out);

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- It is anticipated that heavy patching will be completed in early 2017 (weather permitting);
 - Work on Kidman Way is progressing as expected;
 - Resealing work is continuing following flooding.
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ITEM 2 – RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – STATUS REPORT

FILE: R5-36

AUTHOR: *Director of Engineering Services, Stephen Taylor*

Item 36: Update location of all existing grids:

- Ongoing.

Item 51: Seal on RR7518 (5km out of Tilpa) is lifting:

- Patching is required and sweeping out – ongoing.

Item 56: Emergency Airstrip

- Ongoing.

Item 73: Bridges and additional danger areas on MR68 and SR3

- Ongoing.

Item 75: Tilpa Weir campgrounds

- Ongoing.

Item 78: Grids

- An ongoing issue – Council are currently investigating different designs for grids.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee receive and note the information contained in the Status Report.

Greg Martin /Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

ITEM 3 - EXPENDITURE REPORT

FILE: R5-36

Author: *Director of Engineering Services, Stephen Taylor*

- **Capital Expenditure:**
 - Capital Works Expenditure Report for the period ending 31st October 2016 was tabled for the Committees information and further discussion.
 - Bob Sinclair sought clarification from Maurice Bell in relation to roads expenditure for the coming six month period. Maurice informed the Committee that heavy patching will be completed by Christmas or early 2017.
 - Considerable expenditure from capital works is being expended on the resealing of roads following the recent rain/flooding.
 - Mayor Brady enquired when work in Fredrick Street would be completed.
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- Clarification was sought on expenditure on Acres Billabong.
 - **SR12 – Yathong Road**
 - Council hopes to commence work on the bottom end of SR12 early 2017. This road is in an extremely poor condition. At present there is a lack of plant and equipment to carry out all the work required. Holes need to be filled in, sides graded, quality, affordable gravel needs to be sourced for this work.
 - **RR7518 – Fifty Two Mile Road**
 - Andrew Farnsworth would like to know how much money has been expended on RR7518 - Peter Vlatko to follow-up.

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the Capital Works Expenditure Report be received and noted. In relation to expenditure on RR7518, Peter Vlatko will follow up the question of the exact expenditure that has been spent on RR7518.

Bob Sinclair/ Janine Lea-Barrett

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. The Creation of a Rural Roads Maintenance Program – George Milliar:

- The Committee requested that a Rural Roads Maintenance Program be established. The following suggestions for the program were put forward by the Committee:
 - A program of works that would include construction and maintenance;
 - The use of good quality gravel;
 - Create a register of works needed to be carried out on a priority basis.

2. Proposal to Work Overtime / Extended Hours to Complete Work

- It is understood that some Councils are working a six day week in order to complete work in a timely manner (before the end of the 2016/2017 financial year). The Committee wanted to know if this was an option that Cobar Council would consider? If the need for additional work is required and there are sufficient funds in the budget then it will be considered by Council - Maurice Bell to follow up;
- Roads in the Tilpa area have been graded up to four times due to members of the public driving on these roads when the roads were not suitable to drive on. The additional grading is a waste of Council resources and money. Other roads suffer because of this.
- Andrew Farnsworth has had several near misses near the Meadow Glen Rest Area (travelling from West to East). Andrew questioned if it was a possibility to relocate the Meadow Glen Rest. Maurice Bell felt that due to the high cost involved in building a new rest area that it was highly unlikely that RMS would fund another rest area. It was also noted that many caravaners preferred the Meadow Glen Rest Area for its aesthetics and the Aboriginal artifacts that are present in the area.

RECOMMENDED: The Committee resolved that Council approach RMS to install a channelised right turn at the Meadow Glen Rest Area and erect a barricade to protect the Aboriginal artifacts.

Greg Martin/Andrew Farnsworth

CARRIED

- Bob Sinclair requested input from other members of the Committee on the condition of roads that they may be aware of.
- The Wooltrack (just past the Bloomfield turn off) is in urgent need of repair. There are deep grooves in sections of the road. Work may not commence on some shire roads until May 2017. A possible solution would be to send a road works crew to spot fix the more urgent/dangerous sections of road. Maurice Bell will follow-up. Landholders need to be informed that work will only be done on the most urgent areas and other road work will not be done at this time.

RECOMMENDED: The Committee resolved that Council arrange as a matter of urgency a road work crew to commence repairs on those section of road identified as being in urgent need of immediate repair.

George Millear/Andrew Farnsworth

CARRIED

Bob Sinclair did not vote in favor of this motion

FUTURE MEETING

The next Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th February 2017, commencing at 11.00am at the Mt Hope Community Hall in Mount Hope.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1.10PM