

# REPLIES TO GENERAL BUSINESS QUESTIONS

## COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 MAY 2017



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### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FRANK BURKE

100/1, 1900

Clr G McLaughlin noted the passing of Mr Frank Burke who was involved in reviving the idea of the Highway 31 project. Clr McLaughlin advised that this project will go forward as Mr Burke had registered the name and had a lot of support from various communities. He advised that the project was about encouraging people to look at what was around on historic roads - the Old Hume Highway and where it went – through Mittagong to Berrima and other areas that people should explore. Clr McLaughlin asked for the acknowledgement of Frank Burke who was a former resident of the Wingecarribee Shire.

Clr I M Scandrett supported Clr McLaughlin's words on the passing of Mr Frank Burke. Clr Scandrett advised that Frank Burke was a visionary who was totally focussed on restoring activity in the towns that have been bypassed on Highway 31.

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### 2. ASBESTOS PLAN FOR McEVILLY ROAD, ROBERTSON

7810/24, RD3623

Clr I M Scandrett referred to a question he had previously asked about the asbestos plan for McEvilly Road, Robertson and noted that the report has not come to Council yet.

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead advised that the question would be dealt with by the General Manager and himself.

The General Manager advised that this matter was a resolution of Council and a report is coming back as soon as the information is available.

### **RESPONSE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

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### 3. VEGETATION ON ROAD VERGES

6800/6, 7813

Clr I M Scandrett referred to his previous question on spraying of road verges. He noted that he had received advice that there was a pilot program happening on Golden Vale Road but the verges are regrowing.

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead advised that the question would be dealt with by the General Manager and himself.

### **RESPONSE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

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### 4. DRAINS AND CULVERTS MAINTENANCE BUDGET

2120, 7814/3.5, 8110

Clr I M Scandrett referred to his previous question regarding the budget for clearing drains, culverts and gutters and asked if it was true that Council has a shortfall of budget for maintenance of verges and culverts. Clr Scandrett asked what is Council's plan and will it be in the Budget.

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead advised that the question would be dealt with by the General Manager and himself.

**RESPONSE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

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5. LATTE LIFE

101, 5125, 7170/17

Clr G M Turland asked Clr I M Scandrett if he has ever provided information to Latte Life that relates to the Southern Regional Livestock Exchange.

**REPLY FROM CLR I M SCANDRETT**

I have provided answers to their questions.

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6. REAL ESTATE AGENTS

101, 5125

Clr G M Turland asked Clr I M Scandrett if he has ever provided any information on Council's properties to any real estate agents on Council's intentions to buy or sell.

**REPLY FROM CLR I M SCANDRETT**

What properties?

I also noted Clr Turland stated at Council on 10th May that he was handing up over 40 emails allegedly about me, and that at the meeting of 26th April Clr Turland handed up some emails on a similar question about Frankland St however they had no content and a completely different subject line.

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7. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

101

Clr G M Turland asked Clr I M Scandrett if he keeps all the confidential reports from Council meetings.

Clr I M Scandrett advised that a number of Councillors do and they also observe the Code of Meeting Practice in regard to confidential papers.

**REPLY FROM CLR I M SCANDRETT**

I further advise that this was a practice that was strongly recommended to attendees at the AICD Directors course that myself and Clr Turland attended in Canberra during the last term of Council, which was required by the Office of Local Government and paid for by WSC ratepayers

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8. APOLOGY TO CLR L A C WHIPPER

101

Clr P W Nelson apologised to Clr L A C Whipper in relation to his amendment to the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee, stating that he should have discussed the matter with him and come to a solution prior to the meeting, and that he will endeavour to do that in the future.

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9. PARKING AROUND THE POLICE STATION DEVELOPMENT

7460/26

Clr L A C Whipper noted that it was obvious that construction workers' vehicles are still parking in public car parks and taking up public car spaces and asked if Council had received a response from police?

The General Manager advised that Inspector John Klepczarek had raised this issue with the contractors who are working on the site at the moment but there is a sense that if they are parking in a public car park for a short period of time whilst visiting the site, there is very little that can be done. The General Manager advised that she will raise the matter again with Inspector Klepczarek.

**RESPONSE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

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10. HUME COAL PHONE SURVEY

5115, 5305/7, 5305/11

Clr L A C Whipper noted he had been told that residents have been receiving calls to take part in a phone survey supposedly from Council asking residents' opinion of the Hume Coal project. Clr Whipper asked if Council had authorised such phone poll.

The General Manager advised that Council had not done this and that a Media Release will be put out in relation to this issue.

**REPLY FROM GENERAL MANAGER**

The following Statement was issued on Thursday, 12 May 2017:

**Council refutes telephone survey suggestions**

Wingecarribee Shire Council has today quashed suggestions that it is involved in telephone surveys relating to the proposed Hume Coal Mine project or Hume Coal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) currently on exhibition.

"Council is not, nor has ever, conducted any survey of residents by telephone or otherwise on the Hume Coal proposal," said Council's General Manager, Ann Prendergast.

The query was raised by Councillor Larry Whipper in General Business during Wednesday evening's Ordinary Meeting of Council on behalf of representations made to him by residents.

"Should anyone receive any call or contact from persons claiming to be from Council regarding the Hume Coal EIS, I urge them to take what details they can and contact Council immediately," Ms Prendergast said.

Wingecarribee Shire Council's 24 hour contact number is 4868 0888.

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11. LATTELIFE NEWSPAPERS

101, 5125, 7170/17

Clr L A C Whipper noted that Clr P W Nelson had removed all copies of LatteLife [from the foyer] which he believed were placed there for the public consumption and asked Clr Nelson if he was trying to suppress the freedom of the press.

Clr P W Nelson advised that they are for the other Councillors and he would distribute them after the meeting.

### **RESPONSE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

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#### 12. FLOODING ISSUE IN WEST BOWRAL

8117, RD1584

Clr G McLaughlin advised that a resident in Myositis Street, Bowral had been experiencing flooding issues and that he had sent the issue through as a councillor request. He advised that at this stage no action has been taken according to the owner.

### **REPLY FROM ASSET LIAISON OFFICER**

Council has undertaken the following action regarding the flooding complaint at 25 Boronia Street Bowral:

- A site meeting with the resident on the 11 April to discuss his concerns.
  - A site meeting with Operations Maintenance team on 10 May to determine appropriate maintenance solutions. Operations indicated that they would wait for the recommendations from Council's drainage engineer before undertaking works.
  - Council's drainage engineer inspected the site on 17 May.
  - A request will be made to Operations to undertake the drainage works as directed by the drainage engineer. These works will need to be added the maintenance program.
  - The resident of 25 Boronia Street has been contacted and informed of Council plans to help alleviate flooding on his property.
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