

**REPLIES TO GENERAL BUSINESS QUESTIONS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY,
8 MARCH 2017**



1. MOTOR CYCLE PARKING IN MOSS VALE AND MITTAGONG 7460/25, 7460/26

Clr G McLaughlin referred to a question that he had asked previously about motor cycle parking in Mittagong and Moss Vale, with a view to creating some. He advised that motor cycle parking in Bowral is well used and appreciated by the riding community, and asked for a follow up on this question.

The General Manager asked Clr McLaughlin to resubmit the question.

REPLY FROM TRAFFIC ENGINEER

A report on motor cycle parking spaces in Moss Vale and Mittagong will be submitted to the next meeting of the Traffic Committee on 20 Apr 2017.

2. BOWRAL RETURNED SERVICES 7150/2, 1865/21, 6527/13, 7810/5

Clr G M Turland referred to a letter that was received from the Bowral Returned Services, and asked whether the work will be done before ANZAC Day?

The General Manager advised that she has requested a response from relevant Council staff.

REPLY FROM GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager has responded to the Bowral Returned Services regarding requested work and confirmed repairs requested will be undertaken by mid April 2017 and an on-site meeting is scheduled for 24 March to discuss the location for the marble plaque.

3. ALEXANDRA SQUARE 6545/1

Clr G M Turland asked when will Alexandra Square be completed and has it been completed under budget?

The General Manager advised this question will be taken on notice.

REPLY FROM COORDINATOR OPEN SPACE

The Alexandra Square refurbishment project will be completed May 2017. The project is currently tracking on budget and expected to be completed within the allocated budget at the completion of the project.

The following key stages will be completed:

- Dog park fencing, drinking fountain and seating/social meeting amphitheatre - last week March
- Irrigation system will be operational - last week March
- Furniture installation completed - second week April
- Turf stage one, top section - second week April
- Turf stage two, lower section - last week April
- Final Street and Park tree plantings - last week April
- Final levels and stone block walls - second week April
- Final pathways and completion of project - last week May

4. REPAIRS TO OXLEY DRIVE, MITTAGONG 7810/3, RD1589 0040

Clr G M Turland referred to an area that has washed out on Oxley Drive on the Mittagong side, noting that people are experiencing tyre problems. He asked about repair of this road.

The General Manager advised that this question will be taken on notice.

REPLY FROM GROUP MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

The damage to Oxley Drive is a result of the natural disaster storm that occurred in early June 2016 when 170 roads sustained some form of damage. The program of repair works is well underway and whilst Oxley Drive was rated as a low priority, repairs will be completed within the next four weeks."

5. GARBAGE COLLECTION 7502/1

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead advised that recently the garbage truck missed his street, and that as nothing was done for a couple of days, he contacted Council's answering service and the complaint was registered. The Mayor noted that the rubbish was collected on the following Monday, several days after it was due for collection. He advised that in years past there was a staff member who went around in a utility and would make these missed collections, and asked if perhaps this could be reinstated.

The General Manager advised that the matter will be investigated to see if there is a solution.

REPLY FROM DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER OPERATIONS, FINANCE & RISK

Council staff will meet with contractor JR Richards to discuss concerns over the number of missed bin collections and to ensure future service levels are maintained.

6. SOUTHERN REGIONAL LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE 7170, 7170/1

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead referred to the operations of the Southern Regional Livestock Exchange (SRLX) and asked:

1. Could the Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance & Risk give a brief verbal report to Council with regard to the loss of power supply to the SRLX on Wednesday, 1 March 2017 for a considerable period of time, resulting in time loss and financial costs.

In this report could the Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance and Risk outline the present position regarding the installation of a generator for the purposes of a power back-up.

2. Could the Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance and Risk prepare a comprehensive report on the operations of the Moss Vale Regional Saleyards since September 2016. It is understood that there have been 4 failures over the past 4 weeks. This report must embrace all issues including power supply back-up generator and associated compressors, etc. As part of this report it is expected that administrative procedures and processes be addressed. Likewise, could the report address management processes that are in place or will be introduced.

In response to the Mayor's questions, the Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance and Risk addressed Council on this matter. He advised that there was a power failure at the SRLX last Wednesday which caused disruption to the sale for about an hour. He advised that the issue relates to the 3-phase power at the SRLX, and that a similar issue had occurred in September last year where power was lost. He advised that the issue revolves around the 3-phase power connection on the pole out the front of the SRLX. He advised that one of the circuit breakers failed last year and it dropped down to 2 phases of power, which obviously impacted the operations at the SRLX as it cannot run on just the 2 phases.

The Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance & Risk advised that an instruction was given to staff after the event in September last year that a back-up generator was needed to deal with the issue if it happened again. He advised that discussions were held with Council's electrical contractor to get advice about the scale and type of generator that was required and an estimate of the cost, and that this happened in early to mid-October last year. He advised that the estimate of the cost for the installation indicated that Council needed to go through a request for quotation because of the actual dollars involved. He advised that a specification was issued and that 3 quotations were sought during late October/early November. He advised that a supplier was subsequently selected and an order was placed towards the middle of November.

The Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance & Risk advised that the generator arrived in Australia from China in the middle of January 2017, was delivered into the Highlands towards the end of January and was on-site at the SRLX at the end of January. He advised that arrangements were then required to be made for the installation of the generator. He advised that this required the installation of a concrete slab which was poured on 24 and 25 February, and that the electrical contractor was due to be on site on 26 February to do the installation. He advised that unfortunately this did not occur and since then there was another failure with the 3-phase power last Wednesday morning. He advised that because the generator was not in place, it was necessary to make urgent arrangements to get the electrical contractor on site to reinstate the power and the sale recommenced after about an hour's delay.

The Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance & Risk advised that he was concerned that the generator was not installed as quickly as he had expected and he gave instructions that it was to be installed by Friday afternoon. He advised that the generator was subsequently installed on Thursday and Friday last week and the equipment was tested on Monday this week, and staff are being inducted and trained in its use. He advised that unfortunately there was a couple of weeks delay from receipt of the generator until its final installation, which to him is not satisfactory.

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead advised that Councillors had received a briefing on this matter earlier in the afternoon but thought the public should be made aware of what had occurred.

The Mayor Clr K J Halstead advised that he will be forwarding a letter to the electrical supplier regarding the issue and requesting a response.

RESPONSE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING

7. INSTALLATION OF MOSS VALE CANON

6546/15, 7150/2

Clr I M Scandrett asked:

1. If staff can confirm, as soon as possible, the actual installation date and details of the restored Moss Vale Cannon into Leighton Gardens, which is to be completed by ANZAC Day 2017.
2. Can the slab be of a suitable size to accommodate future roof structure and history signage and reflection seating or adjoining paving be designed to accommodate this?

[It is noted that Clr Scandrett's questions were handed up at the Meeting but were not read out].

REPLY FROM COORDINATOR PARKS & RECREATION ASSETS

The WW1 Howitzer Gun will be installed in its new location in Leighton Gardens, Moss Vale prior to ANZAC Day 2017. Please note, the new location for the Howitzer was discussed and agreed with representatives from Moss Vale Lions Club, Rotary Club, RSL Sub-Branch and Moss Vale Services Club.

The new location for the gun is at the northern end of the Gardens and adjacent to the large Ponderosa Pine. This setting allows good vistas to frame this significant war trophy and emphasis a silent memorial to the Great War. Additionally, the interpretative signage has received input from the Australian War Memorial and local historian.

Please note that the Howitzer will be located adjacent to existing pathway and picnic settings.

A ceremony acknowledging the restoration of the Howitzer is currently being arranged.
