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## REPLIES TO GENERAL BUSINESS QUESTIONS – COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY 2018

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Clr L A C Whipper referred to Council's resolution of Wednesday 27 June to facilitate a consultation with the community about the proposed lease at 1A Rainbow Street Mittagong and bring a report back to Council in three months. Clr Whipper asked if Councillors could get an update on this.

### **RESPONSE FROM THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

Letters have been prepared and sent out to all key local Aboriginal organisations and other key Aboriginal people inviting them to register their interest in the consultation sessions. A number of potential independent facilitators are also being invited to submit an expression of interest and request for quotation to facilitate the consultation process. The formal consultation is expected to commence in the second half of August.

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Clr G Markwart asked a question relating to development in Bundanoon (in reference to petition 06/2018 at Item 16.1) – was the development in question approved under delegated authority, by full Council, or was it determined by the Land and Environment Court?

### **RESPONSE FROM THE GROUP MANAGER PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

The development referred to under petition 06/2018 at item 16.1 was determined under delegated authority of Council in January 2005. The development is located on Erith Street Bundanoon and is known as the Bluegum Estate.

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Clr G McLaughlin asked a question relating to Diamond Fields Road. We are currently in a drought situation, yet residents cannot get a water delivery as truck drivers claim they cannot take their trucks across the bridge. However, Council regularly takes heavy machinery over the bridge. Can this bridge be accessed by trucks for the purpose of water delivery to residents?

### **RESPONSE FROM THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER OPERATIONS, FINANCE AND RISK**

Diamond Fields Road currently has an eight-tonne load limit, which has been in place for a number of years. Council has recently been the recipient of a grant to fund the inspection and assessment of timber bridges across the Shire. The Diamond Fields Road Bridge is the first to be inspected under this programme with a report to management due in early August. Council officers will review the status of the bridge once the final report is received.

Clr G McLaughlin referred again to Diamond Fields Road – residents have no way of exiting the area in the event of a fire as the access road has been blocked off by the Water Board. How are these residents going to evacuate in the event of an emergency?

**RESPONSE FROM THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER OPERATIONS, FINANCE AND RISK**

Access through land controlled by Water NSW is outside Council's control; however it is assumed that access would be provided in times of emergency.

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Clr G McLaughlin advised that he has been approached by Mr Roger Thompson, a resident of Mount Road, who stated that his neighbours have been notified of a development on Centennial Road, but he has not.

**RESPONSE FROM THE GROUP MANAGER PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

The proposed development in question is for an exhibition home on the site of the former OLSH school, which is also the subject of a development application for a seniors housing development. Due to an unidentified technical error in merging the letters with the proposed neighbour owners, several adjoining neighbours did not receive their intended neighbour notification letter. As a result Council will renotify the application and extend the submission period for a further 14 day period.

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Clr P W Nelson referred to the possible unauthorised tape-recording of the meeting and sought confirmation from the Mayor and the General Manager that this matter would be followed up.

**RESPONSE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

The individual who was recording at the last Council meeting has been advised in writing that recording Council meetings is not permitted for the general public under our Code of Meeting Practice. The only people authorised to record Council meetings are members of the media. As the individual has not produced evidence of being employed by an accredited member of the Australian Press Council or of being an affiliated member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority, they are not authorised to record Council meetings.

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Clr I M Scandrett asked that the original notice of motion from 2012 regarding recording of Council meetings be published in the weekly circular, and also as a response to this General Business question.

**RESPONSE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

**Notice of Motion Wednesday 10 October 2012:**

<b>c-NM2</b>	<b>21/2012 – Media Sound Recording in Council Minutes</b>
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<b>Reference:</b>	<b>100/4</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>General Manager</b>

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Councillor Ian Scandrett has given notice that it is his intention to move the following Notice of Motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Wednesday 10 October 2012:

1. **THAT** effectively immediately Council resolve to allow the media to use tape recorders in all Council Meetings **AND THAT**:
  - a) Council amend its Chamber signage and website to advise the public that the meeting is both recorded by Council AND by the Media;
  - b) Council amend its business papers commencing with the next meeting to now state in the introductory pages that the meeting is both recorded by Council AND by the Media;
  - c) Council add wiring to its electronic recording system so as to provide two (2) sets of 2 x 3.5mm sound out jacks spaced along the media desk so that the media can plug into the Council microphone system together with any other related connections as recommended by Council's IT section; and
  - d) That Council provide public access to the Wi-Fi network currently showing in the Chamber as locked so that Councillors, the Public and the Public can access this, subject to Councils Wi-Fi policy.

#### **CW 258/12**

The Committee on a **MOTION** moved by Clr T D Gair and seconded by Clr G McLaughlin:

1. **THAT** a briefing session be held for Councillors in relation to Media Sound Recording of Council Minutes as it may require amendment to Councils current policy.
2. **THAT** prior to the briefing session Council seek advice from other Councils who currently allow Media Sound Recording of Council Meetings.
3. **THAT** the briefing session consider the following:
  - (a) Council amend its Chamber signage and website to advise the public that the meeting is both recorded by Council and by the Media;
  - (b) Council amend its business papers commencing with the next meeting to now state in the introductory pages that the meeting is both recorded by Council and by the Media;
  - (c) Council add wiring to its electronic recording system so as to provide two (2) sets of 2 x 3.5mm sound out jacks spaced along the media desk so that the media can plug into the Council microphone system together with any other related connections as recommended by Council's IT section; and
  - (d) That Council provide public access to the Wi-Fi network currently showing in the Chamber as locked so that Councillors, the Public and the Public can access this, subject to Councils Wi-Fi policy.

#### **PASSED**

Please note: Further to recommendation 3 (c), Clr Scandrett was advised in March 2013 that due to the cost of \$3,000 to install audio jacks in the media table, this was not carried out.