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EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

BUSINESS PAPER

30 June 2020

Extraordinary Meeting of Council

30 June 2020



Extraordinary Council Meeting 30 June 2020 at 12:30pm

Uralla Shire Council Chambers

- BUSINESS AGENDA -

- 1. OPENING OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
- 2. PRAYER
- 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
- 4. WEBCAST INFORMATION
- 5. APOLOGIES
- 6. DISCLOSURES & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
- 7. PURPOSE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
 - 1. Report 1 Local Drought Stimulus Package
 - Notice of Rescission Motion DA-85-2019 Additions and alterations to supermarket, new carpark, demolition of existing structure - 100 Bridge Street, Uralla
- 8. CLOSE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

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Department: Infrastructure and Development

Submitted by:Director Infrastructure and DevelopmentReference/Subject:Report 1 - Local Drought Stimulus Package

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Goal: 4.2 An effective and efficient organisation

Strategy: 4.2.2 Operate in a financially responsible and sustainable manner **Activity:** 4.2.2.3 Maximise grant and funding partnership opportunities

Action: 4.2.2.3.1 Identify and seek grant funding opportunities as resources provide for infrastructure and

regulation projects or services

SUMMARY:

This report is submitted to Council's June Extraordinary Meeting seeking Council's endorsement of the application for funding and commencement of selected projects under the Drought Communities Stimulus Package.

A Drought Stimulus Package of up to \$900,000 has been offered to Uralla Shire Council under the NSW Government's \$170 million Drought Stimulus Package.

The purpose of these packages is to fund a range of projects and initiatives that will facilitate the flow of money through local economies, generate local jobs, support local businesses and assist communities to overcome the negative local economic and related impacts of droughts.

A copy of the grant funding frequently asked questions information sheet is attached (see attachment 1).

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1) Participate in the Local Drought Stimulus Package to undertake community infrastructure improvements, community facility improvements, community events (focused on drought preparedness and resilience), public land improvement, tourism and economic diversification, infrastructure and amenity upgrading and improvement;
- 2) Endorse the Council's Smarty Grants applications for the following projects,
 - Visitor Information Centre refurbishment \$400,000 (Part funding)
 - Swimming pool family and disabled change rooms. \$90,000 (Part funding)
 - Bundarra Multipurpose Courts \$300,000
 - Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park \$65,000
 - Uralla Community Centre \$45,000

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3) Wherever possible utilise resources, businesses and suppliers from within the Uralla Shire Council area for works and/or activities delivered in accordance with the program.

BACKGROUND:

A report was provided to Council at its Ordinary March 2020 Meeting with the recommendation; That Council:

- 1) Participate in the Local Drought Stimulus Package to undertake community infrastructure improvements, community facility improvements, community events (focused on drought preparedness and resilience), public land improvement, tourism and economic diversification, infrastructure and amenity upgrading and improvement;
- 2) Adopt the projects, identified in this report noting that the funding is unlikely to extend to all projects in a priority determined by Council.
- 3) Authorise a committee comprising of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor (or other selected Councillor), Director of Infrastructure and Development and the General Manager to determine the amount of funding to be attributed to each project after liaison with DPIE Regional NSW Group.
- 4) Secure the necessary resources to:
 - a) Scope the necessary works and pricing to support the funding application(s);
 - b) Assist in the preparation of the funding application;
 - c) If successful, procure and coordinate the contractors and materials necessary to deliver the works; and
 - d) Liaise with the stakeholders of the facilities and/or activities to which the funding will be directed.
- 5) Wherever possible utilise resources, businesses and suppliers from within the Uralla Shire Council area for works and/or activities delivered in accordance with the program.
- 6) Approve the commencement of the works after internal assessment identifies the projects as eligible and prior to the funding agreement being finalised.

A list of projects had been developed in consultation with staff and councillors including some previously listed projects that had been identified for consideration in other grant funding programs.

Instead of considering the list of projects that had been developed, Council resolved; That Council:

- 1. Participate in the Local Drought Stimulus Package
- 2. Deliver the Industrial Land (balance of funding only after using currently allocated funds), VIC Project (balance of funding after using currently allocated funds), Constellations of the South Project and Uralla Shire Map as these projects are deemed to meet the criteria for eligible projects as set out by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, that projects must be expected to:
 - a. Contribute to the economic activity of community/regions; and/or,
 - b. Lead to the retention of businesses, services and facilities; and/or,
 - c. Lead to the employment of LGA-based contractors, services etc.; and
 - d. Align with and deliver on Council Community Strategic Plans.
- 3. Notes that the Industrial Land development, VIC development, Constellations of the South Project and Uralla Shire Map Project are already validated with our community and meet each of the above requirements.
- 4. Write to the Member for Northern Tablelands, The Hon Adam Marshall MP, asking that he makes representations on Council's behalf to ensure the balance of any funding be retained in a restricted fund for the specific purpose of providing economic stimulus after the restrictions on normal operations as a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis have passed. If the funding is not available, the list will be sent to all councillors to prioritise each project.

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- 5. Pending this outcome, direct the General Manager to present to Council at the next Ordinary meeting the steps necessary to establish this restricted fund for this purpose.
- 6. Receive a detailed report on each project to outline the funding used from the Drought Stimulus in each case, as well as to identify the residual amount to be set aside in the restricted fund.

A rescission motion was lodged that prevented the resolution from being complied with prior to the next Ordinary Meeting and Council staff submitted a list of grant eligible projects to comply with the stated approval timeframes.

The FAQ advised that the Local Drought Stimulus Package should be agreed and approved by 30 April 2020. Funding should be fully spent and a final report submitted by 30 June 2021.

The projects submitted included;

- Visitor Information Centre refurbishment \$400,000 (Part funding)
- Swimming pool family and disabled change rooms. \$90,000 (Part funding)
- Bundarra Multipurpose Courts \$300,000
- Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park \$65,000
- Uralla Community Centre \$45,000

Advice was subsequently received that these projects were pre-approved for grant application submission via the Smarty Grants Portal.

The rescission motion was not successful at the April meeting and Council staff have been in communications with State Government DRNSW staff to progress the resolution at OM **17.03/20**.

In regards to the OM **17.03/20** March 2020 resolution, advice has been received that "In relation to the option for the industrial park, this project doesn't align with the objectives of this DSP funding. Key principles of this funding are to fund a range of local projects and initiatives that deliver economic stimulus, and target/favour projects that are delivered in smaller locations across the LGA. For this reason, this project isn't supported under this funding."

Verbal advice has also been received that surplus funds cannot be held in a restricted fund as per Council's request.

The Visitor Information Centre project has been approved at Concept Level for part funding at \$400,000 and the application has been lodged.

Additionally, the Constellations of the South project was not considered appropriate for the funding by DRNSW.

The Uralla Shire Map project is already funded under the Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund program.

Attached is an email (Attachment 2) from the A/Deputy Director Regional Development NSW confirming the urgency of the submission of the grant applications.

REPORT:

The Local Drought Stimulus Package should have been agreed and approved by 30 April 2020. Funding is to be fully spent and a final report submitted by 30 June 2021.

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The projects submitted included;

- Visitor Information Centre refurbishment \$400,000 (Part funding)
- Swimming pool family and disabled change rooms. \$90,000 (Part funding)
- Bundarra Multipurpose Courts \$300,000
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Verbal advice has also been received that surplus funds cannot be held in a restricted fund as per Council's request.

As per previous advice, the Uralla Shire Map project is already funded under the Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund program.

Additionally, Council has received advice that

"DRNSW has approved at concept level the following projects:

- 1) Visitor Information Centre refurbishment \$400,000
- 2) Swimming pool family and disabled change rooms. \$90,000
- 3) Bundarra Multipurpose Courts \$300,000
- 4) Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park \$65,000
- 5) Uralla Community Centre \$45,000

The Constellations of the South and Sculpture Park project is not supported as DRNSW considers the above approved projects to have greater value and alignment to the funding objectives. The above projects have been approved to progress, please ask council to submit applications for Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park and Community Centre projects in Smarty Grants and respond to our request for further information on other projects asap as we are now approaching EOFY. "

Attached is an email from the A/Deputy Director Regional Development NSW confirming the urgency of the Grant funding applications.

Council staff have progressed the grant funding applications for the Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park and the Community Centre. Grant applications have already been submitted for the

- 1) Visitor Information Centre refurbishment \$400,000 (Part funding)
- 2) Swimming pool family and disabled change rooms. \$90,000 (Part funding)
- 3) Bundarra Multipurpose Courts \$300,000

Already Council has lost a couple of months on this program and these projects need to be fully finalised by the end of June 2021. Further delays will potentially jeopardise the conclusion of the projects within the required timeframe.

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KEY ISSUES:

- Additional internal staffing resources will be required to finalise the Grant application and procure the contractors and suppliers to undertake the repairs and refurbishments.
- There is a tight timeframe to complete the program and further delays will jeopardise the funding
- Council has received approval of \$900,000.
- The grant amount will be up to 100% of eligible project costs.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- repairs, maintenance, upgrading or building new community facilities
- repairs, maintenance, upgrades, construction and fit-out of community spaces
- employing local contractors to undertake repairs and maintenance
- holding events
- undertaking other drought relief activities (including water carting for human consumption) that benefit the community
- development of an Adverse Event Plan

An allowance in the project costs should be made to fund the external financial auditor likely to be required as part of the funding conditions.

The process steps after the projects are prioritised are:

- 1: Council and DPIE Regional NSW Group staff collaborate to identify and develop projects in line with the principles of funding and eligibility requirements set out in this Fact Sheet. **Completed**
- 2: Council submits a Concept Summary (Attachment 3 already submitted) to regionalnsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au Completed
- 3: The Drought Programs Team of the Regional NSW Group reviews and approves the Concept Summary. Completed
- 4: Council submits a Project Plan for each approved project or initiative in Smarty Grants. Completed
- 5: The Regional NSW Group works with Council to develop the Milestone Schedule and Funding Deed.

Council does not currently have the appropriate number of skilled resources to carry forward this program and will likely need to advertise or engage external staff or contractors/consultants to assist in the development and delivery of the programme.

The grant money available (up to \$900,000) through this programme is worth pursuing and will provide for significant community benefit.

CONCLUSION

A Drought Stimulus Package of up to \$900,000 has been offered to Uralla Shire Council under the NSW Government's \$170 million Drought Stimulus Package.

It is important that Council concludes the application and commences the projects at the earliest opportunity to ensure the grant funding available to Council is appropriately expended.

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COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

1. Community Engagement/ Communication (per engagement strategy)

Expressions of interest for contractors and suppliers has been advertised on Council's web page, Facebook account and in the newsletter for grant funded projects.

2. Policy and Regulation

Works and events should be undertaken in accordance with the Regulations.

3. Financial (LTFP)

Has the capacity to impact positively on the LTFP through the maintenance to community facilities.

4. Asset Management (AMS)

Will reduce community building AMP renewal requirements.

5. Workforce (WMS)

Additional staff required.

6. Legal and Risk Management

Funding deed

7. Performance Measures

Completion of works by end of June 2021

8. Project Management

Additional staffing or outsourced to consultants.

Prepared by staff member: Director Infrastructure and Development

TRIM Reference Number: UINT/20/5450

Approved/Reviewed by Manager: Director Infrastructure and Development

Department: Infrastructure & Development

Attachments: 1 - DSP - Local Drought Stimulus Package - Fact Sheet

2 - Email from the Acting Deputy Director DRNSW

3 - Drought Stimulus Package - nominated projects

Drought Stimulus PackageLocal Drought Stimulus Packages



FACT SHEET

Overview

The NSW Government's \$170 million Drought Stimulus Package aims to mitigate the employment and income impacts of the current drought in regional NSW by delivering economic stimulus. Following the initial investment in fast-tracked local infrastructure projects, further stimulus measures are now being rolled out.

Local Drought Stimulus Packages provide targeted drought affected LGA's with a funding allocation to deliver a range of projects and initiatives.

Objective

To fund a range of projects and initiatives that will facilitate the flow of money through local economies, generate local jobs, support local businesses and assist communities to overcome the negative local economic and related impacts of drought.

Principles of funding

Projects and initiatives funded under Local Drought Stimulus Packages will:

- Be developed and agreed in a collaborative spirit between Councils and the NSW Government;
- Have the primary focus of delivering economic stimulus via a range of local projects, programs and initiatives;
- Be aligned with and support the delivery of key initiatives or projects in Council Community Strategic Plans;
- Target / favour projects that are delivered in smaller towns and villages across an LGA;
- Align with and leverage Commonwealth Drought Communities Program funding and other NSW Government funding where possible/practical;
- Commit to spend funding responsibly but as quickly as possible, with an appropriate timeframe agreed between councils and the NSW Government;
- Fund new or unfunded existing initiatives;
- Leverage existing and proven initiatives where practical;
- Aim to secure the highest possible amount of work for local trades, services and other businesses in the relevant LGA with estimated local expenditure to be reported in funding milestones.

Steps to develop the package

Each package will be developed in partnership between Council and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE) Regional NSW Group staff. A step-by-step guide for the development of the Local Drought Stimulus Packages is listed below:

- 1: Council and DPIE Regional NSW Group staff collaborate to identify and develop projects in line with the principles of funding and eligibility requirements set out in this Fact Sheet.
- 2: Council submits a Concept Summary (Attachment A) to regionalnsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au.
- 3: The Drought Programs Team of the Regional NSW Group reviews and approves the Concept Summary.
- 4: Council submits a Project Plan for each approved project or initiative in Smarty Grants.
- 5: The Regional NSW Group works with Council to develop the Milestone Schedule, Funding Deed

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FACT SHEET

Eligible projects

Projects must be expected to:

- contribute to the economic activity of communities/regions; and/or,
- lead to the retention of businesses, services and facilities; and/or
- lead to the employment of LGA-based contractors, services etc.; and
- align with and deliver on Council Community Strategic Plans.

A range of projects and initiatives are eligible for funding. Examples include, but are not limited to:

Theme	Examples of projects	Benefits
Localised community infrastructure	Main street improvement projects, such as CBD beautification, park upgrades etc.	 Targets smaller towns Support local trades and businesses Can be rolled out quickly
Public building renewal	 Installation of new water tanks and/or water savings and solar systems Painting and/or repair of public buildings 	 Utilises local trades and suppliers Potential cost-savings in the long-term for Councils
Events and attractions	 Community festivals Sponsorship of regionally significant and/or local events and attractions 	 Supports tourism visitation and expenditure in the local community. Supports existing and recognised festivals and event
Supporting local businesses and skill development	 Workforce development activities Re-skilling programs for local employees Business advisory and improvement services 	 Directly supports local businesses and suppliers Helps re-skill locally based workers

Ineligible projects

Local Drought Stimulus Package funding cannot be used for:

- payment of salaries for existing staff;
- any expenses that are not an integral part of the project or initiative;
- a Council's core or business-as-usual operations:
- purchases of land, buildings, vehicles or non-fixed capital equipment (e.g. trucks and earthmoving equipment, ICT);
- expenditure incurred prior to the notification to Council that the project or initiative has been approved for funding;
- buy local cards as a form of local economic stimulus.

Drought Stimulus PackageLocal Drought Stimulus Packages



FACT SHEET

Timeframe

All Local Drought Stimulus Packages should be agreed and approved by 30 April 2020. Extensions may be granted upon request to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Funding should be fully spent and a final report submitted by 30 June 2021.

Funding Deed and Milestone Schedules

The Funding Deed will be between the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and Councils.

Each Funding Deed will include a Milestone Schedule for each approved project or initiative in the package.

Payments

A payment on signing will be front loaded (up to 50%) to facilitate project commencement as soon as possible.

Payments will be dependent on demonstration of successful completion of milestone requirements.

Contact

For more information, please contact your local Regional NSW Group representative or email regionalnsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au.

From: Shaun O"Sullivan

To: <u>Terence Seymour; Scott Phillips</u>
Cc: <u>Peter Sniekers; Darren Keegan</u>

Subject: TRIM: LDSP stream 2 package; Uralla Shire Council

Date: Wednesday, 24 June 2020 7:59:48 PM

Dear Scott and Terry

Thank you for your enquiries on the LDSP program (Local Drought Support Stimulus) and the proposed project alternatives that have been put up by Council by letter and discussed with the Local Member's and Deputy Premier's offices.

After consideration, the advice we have received today is that:

The LDSP projects originally proposed at the concept level with Uralla Shire Council, and that DRNSW previously approved (\$900,000) included:

- Visitor Information Centre refurbishment \$400,000
- Swimming pool family and disabled change rooms. \$90,000
- Bundarra Multipurpose Courts \$300,000
- Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park \$65,000
- Uralla Community Centre \$45,000

The Department's approval of these projects still stands as they effectively meet the objectives of the LDSP, provide effective distribution of funding across Uralla LGA as well as having the ability to commence quickly which supports local trades and suppliers.

We understand that other proposals are currently being considered by Council. However please note that the Department is not in a position to keep reviewing alternative proposals. The purpose of these packages is for rapid design, review and approval in order to meet the stimulus targets.

It would greatly appreciate if Council could prioritise the above projects so as we can issue a Funding Deed within 2-weeks.

Furthermore in relation to the projects already lodged on SmartyGrants and which are being assessed, Public Works Advisory (PWA) have had a look at the three following projects in Uralla Shire Council's DSP local drought support package and they need some further information to support their assessment that these projects are viable and deliverable.

 Could you please provide this in the next day or two so we can get this back to PWA for assessment.

Uralla Visitor Information Centre

Currently there isn't enough detail around the project scope to understand what exactly will be included in the refurbishment.

Please outline project scope – what will be refurbished at the facility? Any supporting docs such as design drawings would be helpful also.

PWA have also asked for more information about the budget estimate to support assessment there are sufficient funds to deliver on the scope.

Please provide a more detailed project budget and outline what the basis for the cost estimate is (i.e. quote from external contractor – if so, please provide, or council cost estimate based on previous project etc.)

Bundarra Multipurpose Courts

PWA have asked to clarify whether the project is one multipurpose court with overlapping lined for multiple sports or multiple courts in close proximity. If one court, will markings for multiple sports work?

The application has an error in terms of the delivery timeframe, the end date is one month before the start date (i.e. end date of May 2020). Can you please outline delivery timeframe.

PWA have also asked for more information about the budget estimate to support assessment there are sufficient funds to deliver on the scope.

Please provide a more detailed project budget and outline what the basis for the cost estimate is (i.e. quote from external contractor – if so, please provide, or council cost estimate based on previous project etc.)

Swimming pool – family and disabled change rooms

Please provide a more detailed project budget and outline what the basis for the cost estimate is (i.e. quote from external contractor – if so, please provide, or council cost estimate based on previous project etc.)

Because council also received funding under SCCF Rd 3 for this project, we need to understand what the scope of works is for DSP funding and what scope of works for SCCF funding to ensure there is no overlap and for council reporting back on completion of milestones.

Please outline project scope – what will DSP funds be allocated towards and what will SCCF funds be allocated to.

Thanks and regards

Shaun

Shaun O'Sullivan A/Deputy Director Regional Development

Public Works Advisory and Regional Development | Department of Regional NSW **T** 02 6760 2679 | **M** 0447 295 011 | **E** shaun.osullivan@dpc.nsw.gov.au 131a Marius Street, Tamworth | PO Box 865, Tamworth NSW 2340

nsw.gov.au/regionalnsw



I work flexibly. I'm sending this message now because it's a good time for me, but I don't expect you to read, respond or action it outside your own regular working hours.

The Department of Regional New South Wales acknowledges that it stands on Country which always was and always will be Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging. We are committed to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work.

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Drought Stimulus Package Local Drought Stimulus Package



CONCEPT SUMMARY – ATTACHMENT A

Council	Uralla Shire Council		
Council contact person	Terry Seymour, Director Infrastructure and Development, 0427 215 970, tseymour@uralla.nsw.gov.au		

Please provide the following information for each proposed project, program or initiative in the support package (1 line per initiative) and submit this to regionalnsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au.

Theme	Project title	Description	DSP funding (\$)	Other funding (\$)	Timeframe
Thematic area (e.g. localised community infrastructure)	Title	Clearly outline the objective and project scope / activities to deliver this.	\$	\$	Start date and end date
Public facilities renewal	Visitor Information Centre refurbishment	Refurbishment of the Uralla Visitor Information Centre. This project will modernise the facility, provide for additional pop-up display area and potentially improve the local economy through additional sales of local products and additional tourist visitor stays. Design has been completed. Tenders have been called and assessed. Project is ready to commence pending this funding. Includes provision for audio visual touch displays.	\$400,000	\$100,000	May 2020 – September 2020

COUNCIL BUSINESS PAPER - 30 JUNE 2020

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CONCEPT SUMMARY – ATTACHMENT A

Localised Community Infrastructure	Swimming pool – family and disabled change rooms.	Design and construction of change rooms including showers and toilets for facilitating family and disabled needs at the Uralla Swimming pool. This will improve the inclusivity of this popular recreational facility in Uralla.	90,000	\$115,000	Commence design May 2020, Call tenders in July, Commence construction in August, complete facilities in October.
Localised Community Infrastructure	Bundarra Multipurpose Courts	Design and construct multipurpose courts for basketball, tennis, netball, volleyball and cricket nets in Souter Street Bundarra, on the site of the previous tennis Courts. Council has recently purchased the site from the Church of England Diocese for the purpose of developing these community facilities for the residents of Bundarra	\$300,000	0	Design commence May2020. Tender July 2020. Construction August 2020 to February 2021
Public facilities renewal	Uralla Queen Street Caravan Park	Upgrade and refurbishment of the amenities block, paths, internal roads and electrical services throughout the caravan park. This will result in both a short term and longer term stimulus through the engagement of local contractors for the works and additional visitr stays	\$65,000	0	Commence in May, with completion of the works by March 2021.
Public Building renewal	Uralla Community Centre	Painting of internal building and solar powered car park lighting.	\$45,000	0	Commence in May – Completion by September.

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Submitted by: Cr Tara Toomey, Cr Robert Crouch, Cr Tom O'Connor, Cr Levi Sampson

and Cr Robert Bell

Subject: Notice of Rescission Motion – DA-85-2019 Additions and alterations to

supermarket, new carpark, demolition of existing structure – 100 Bridge Street,

Uralla

Notice of Motion:

Councillors Toomey, Crouch, O'Connor, Sampson and Bell move to rescind Council's Resolution 10.06/20 in respect of Report to Council 1 - DA-85-2019 Additions and alterations to supermarket, new carpark, demolition of existing structure – 100 Bridge Street, Uralla at the Ordinary Meeting dated 23 June 2020.

That Council approve the Development Application 85/2019 for additions and alterations to supermarket, new car park, demolition of existing structures at 100 Bridge Street Uralla (Lot 2 DP 1127831) subject to the conditions of consent in Attachment 1to this report – Development Assessment Report 85/2019.

In the event Council rescinds the above motion, Councillor Crouch moves:

That:

- Council further defer a decision on Development Application 85/2019 for the additions and alterations to supermarket, new car park, demolition of existing structures at 100 Bridge Street Uralla (Lot2 DP 1127831).
- 2. Before the Development Application returns to Council for determination, the General Manager negotiate with the applicant necessary changes to plans within the lodged development 85/2019 to address concerns raised in traffic and pedestrian management and movement, disabled access structures, compliance with Uralla Shire Council Development Control Plan guidelines, carparking provision and the retention of the bus parking shed, professional advice on the preservation of trees and neighbouring structures.

General Manager's Note:

In accordance with the terms of Council's instructions within the tabled Motion I contacted Mr Peter Hay, being the owner of the property and the person with carriage of the development application before Council. I informed Mr Hay that in the event the Motion was adopted by Council I would be instructed to negotiate amendments to the development consistent with the Motion.

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Mr Hay has advised me that his planning consultant and Council officers have undertaken considerable negotiations, resulting in several changes to the development since the application was lodged in December 2019. Mr Hay advised that he agreed to a deferral of the application in April 2020 to facilitate Council undertaking additional community consultation and in May 2020, following Council's second deferral of the application, considered neighbouring property owners requests for further amendments. Mr Hay has advised me that he believes he has acted in good faith and therefore, respectfully declines to participate in any further community consultation or negotiations to further amend the development, other than via conditions of development consent.

Mr Hay has requested Council to determine his application based on the information before Council.

I am satisfied the development application has been publicly notified in accordance with Council's Development Control Plan and all submissions received in response to the notification process have been appropriately considered in the assessment of the application prior to the matter being placed before Council.

Section 4.16 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 prescribes:

4.16 Determination

- (1) A consent authority (in this case Uralla Shire Council) is to determine a development application by
 - a) granting consent to the application, either unconditionally or subject to conditions, or
 - b) refusing consent to the application.

Given Council has already deferred the application by resolution, publicly exhibited the application in accordance with its policy and exhausted all avenues of negotiation with the applicant, Council would give rise to a charge of failing in its statutory obligations if it again deferred the development application. Council's failure to administer its statutory responsibilities may give rise to the Minister for Local Government removing Council's planning powers.

I recommend Council acts in accordance with its statutory obligation and determines the development application without further delay.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. Approves the development application in accordance with the recommended conditions of consent held in the officer's report to the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Meeting; OR
- 2. Refuses the development application for reasons determined by Council.

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END OF BUSINESS PAPER