

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



May 2022

Mayor's Message

Autumn is well and truly upon us and we are so fortunate to be living in the beautiful Uralla Shire.

In April I had the privilege of attending the annual Mayoral Youth Forum for Youth Week with students representing every school in the Shire. It was a great opportunity to meet with youth representatives and hear first-hand their experiences and ideas to make our Shire a better place. Over a working lunch, we discussed a number of topics such as internet connectivity in rural areas, upgrades to the swimming pool, access to health care and job opportunities. We are fortunate to have so many bright, positive young people in our Shire who are our future.

This year's ANZAC Day dawn services and marches were well attended, with participation by veterans, family members, supporters, and community groups. It was an important day of reflection and remembrance to pay respect to those who serve and who have served our community.

At our April Council meeting, Council resolved to apply for a permanent special variation so that the rate cap for the 2022/23 budget will be 2.5%. This is in accordance with the base case in Council's 2021/22 Long Term Financial Plan and not the previously announced Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal 0.7% rate cap. Council



The Youth Week Mayoral Youth Forum held in Council Chambers with students of all Uralla Shire schools in attendance.

determined this is necessary due to fixed cost increases that are significantly above inflation and without the 2.5% increase next financial year the gap between revenue and expenses would increase exponentially over future years.

Council appointed Councillors McMullen, Bower and Petrov to its new Development Working Group and appointed Councillors Toomey, Crouch and Burrows to the new Capital Works Working Group. These working groups will assist with Council's strategic goals of encouraging development in the Shire and managing capital works in a financially sustainable manner.

Council will apply for funding under the NSW Social Cohesion Grant program to develop Shire signage. A Councillor Steering Group of Councillors Doran, McMullen and Petrov will lead discussions with the community on the design of simple shire boundary/entrance signage and village/township signage. Stage 1 of the project will deliver signs that mark the Shire as a locality and acknowledge

the indigenous land. Some of the more ambitious ideas that might arise through the project will be collated for a future stage.

Council made decisions regarding heavy patching on priority areas to improve the safety of the current road network in response to recent damage by weather events.

Council continues to be committed to transparency and resolved to amend its Code of Meeting Practice policy to change the time of Ordinary Meetings from 9:30am to 4:00pm to facilitate community attendance. This document will be on public exhibition to 26 May 2022.

Members of the community are encouraged to visit the Council website or follow us on Facebook, where notices of Council meetings, workshops and other matters of interest are posted. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us with the issues that are important to you.

Acting Mayor, Cr Robert Crouch

REMINDER: RESIDENTS ASKED TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR METER READERS

Water meter reading is conducted in November and May each year in Bundarra and Uralla, with water bills due to be sent out at the end of the reading month.

Council relies on accurate and timely water meter readings to make sure you are billed correctly. You can help by allowing clear access to your water meter so meter readers can record your water use and repair or replace your water meter when required.

Council staff may not be able to read your meter if it is behind a

locked gate or if it is unsafe to enter the property.

Other hazards that may prevent meter readers accessing the meter include:

- the presence of a dog
- it is buried in concrete or dirt
- it is surrounded by overgrown grass, garden or vegetation.

Please ensure there is at least one (1) metre clearance either side of your water meter and two (2) metres above it for Council staff to

safely access your meter.

If Council cannot safely gain access to your water meter to obtain a reading, we may have to estimate your usage.

An estimate is based on the property's previous usage pattern.

When an actual meter read can be taken following one or more estimates, the account will be adjusted so that customers are invoiced according to actual water used to date.

COUNCILLOR INDUCTION

A sound councillor induction program was launched at the beginning of the year for both returning and new councillors. This program has been set up to equip our Mayor and Councillors with the information necessary to perform their roles. Training has been facilitated in-house and through Local Government NSW.

Councillors and the Mayor have also attended webinars organised through the Office of Local Government. Council has organised bus tours of the Shire and invited sector experts with general manager and elected member experience to provide information



and support. Through the induction program, councillors have been provided with an understanding of the legislated environment

we work in, council's assets, the principles of governance, and the roles and responsibilities of the mayor, councillors and council staff.

Development Application and Complying Development Certificate Approvals March 2022

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-4-2022	Mrs R Knight	59 Pinegrove Road, Saumarez Ponds	Horse Stables
DA-5-2022	Great Value Sheds	4276 Kingstown Road, Kingstown	Shed
DA-6-2022	Mrs J Ayre	50 Duke Street, Uralla	Self-Storage Units
DA-7-2022	Local Government Engineering Services Pty Ltd	1 Bombelli Street, Bundarra	Demolish Existing & Construct Pavilion (Dining Hall, Kitchen & Bar)
DA-8-2022	Phoenix Foundry	44 Duke Street, Uralla	Storage Shed
DA-9-2022	Armidale New England Building Design	5A Plane Avenue, Uralla	Dual Occupancy
DA-10-2022	Mr H Carlon	8 Faulkner Street, Uralla	3 Lot Subdivision
DA-12-2022	Ambrose Building Development Services Pty Ltd	22 Oliver Street, Bundarra	Dwelling
DA-14-2022	Rosbuild Constructions	51 Rock Abbey Road, Uralla	Shed
CDC-12-2021	Mr S & Mrs D Gray	6 Welbourn Place, Saumarez Ponds	Dwelling Alterations & Additions

Withdrawals: Nil

Refusals: Nil

The Notices of Determination for the above Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates are available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at Uralla Shire Council pursuant to Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No. 203*.

NSW GOVERNMENT SAVINGS FINDER

The NSW Government has launched Savings Finder to make it easy to access more than 70 rebates, savings and vouchers on power and utility bills, transport costs, health, sports, accommodation and recreation within NSW.

With so many savings on offer, this free service can help people of all ages. By answering a few simple questions through the online Savings Finder tool on the Service NSW website, it is easy to identify the rebates and savings that you may be eligible to apply for.

You can also book a free, one-hour appointment with a Service NSW Savings Specialist to discuss your eligibility and get assistance with the application process.

To help support businesses and give a boost to every budget, NSW residents can access a range of vouchers via the Service NSW App including Dine & Discover NSW, Stay NSW and Parents NSW.

For more information about rebates and savings, visit [Service NSW](#) online or call 13 77 88 from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday.



Q SAVINGS FINDER



ZNET 'WORKING ON WASTE' WORKSHOPS



In the coming months ZNET will be running a series of FREE workshops in their 'Working on Waste' program, funded by a grant from the Foundation for Rural & Regional Resilience. Workshops will focus on building skills and learning how to repair clothes, furniture, and garden tools instead of tossing them into landfill.

Workshops will also feature creative tricks to upcycle and repurpose to make what is old new

again. Keep an eye on Facebook for upcoming details.

As winter winds are starting to blow, ZNET will run their popular curtain making workshop on Saturday, 4 June 2022 to help you insulate your home and lower power bills this winter. Contact projects@zneturalla.org.au for more details.

Pictured left: Danae Price, the recipient of a lovely wool jacket repaired at ZNET's Drop-in Mending Morning at the Uralla Co-op on 9 April 2022.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN - THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT

With the new term of Council, a number of statutory documents are required to be drafted and adopted by Council.

The highest level plan to be prepared is the Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The CSP was informed by more than 1700 responses from people in the community, a significant number for our Shire.

This document sets out the community's vision, strategic

objectives and strategies so that Council can identify activities, and actions to work toward these objectives.

The CSP will be presented to Council's May Ordinary meeting for adoption.

The Draft Delivery Program and the Draft Operational Plan will be considered at a Council meeting before being placed on public exhibition.

Council receives quarterly reports on the issues and services set out in the Operational Plan in addition to medium and long term activities in the Delivery Program.

All documents, once adopted, will be available on Council's website.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION: AMENDED CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

At its April Ordinary Meeting, Council proposed a change the commencement time of Ordinary Council Meetings from 9:30am to 4:00pm and placed the amended Code of Meeting Practice on public exhibition for 28 days.

Please visit the [Council website](#) to view or download the draft Code of Meeting Practice 2022.

Submissions must be in writing and can be made to the Office of the General Manager at PO Box 106, Uralla NSW 2358 or by email to council@uralla.nsw.gov.au.

Submissions close Thursday, 26 May 2022 at 5:00pm.

STREET STORE SCHEDULE

Located at 60 Bridge St, Uralla

2 - 8 May

Uralla Historical Society

9-15 May

Kentucky Memorial Hall

16-22 May

Diggings Brigade, Rural Fire Service

23-29 May

Armidale & District MS Group

30 May - 5 June

RSL Uralla Sub Branch

CIVIL WORKS

Completed in April

- Maintenance grading: Gwydir Park Road, Danehurst Lane, Woodlands Road, Carlowrie Road
- Gravel resheeting: Rock Abbey Road
- Kingstown Road Heavy Patching using contractor

Upcoming in May

- Sealed Urban Road Rehabilitation: Dangar Street, Uralla Street, King Street
- Heavy patching (stabilising) to selected failures on Arding, Kliendienst and Kingstown Roads

Ongoing

- Hawthorne Drive Stage 2 Construction
- Tolleys Gully Bridge: Construction of bridge access road and approaches
- Regional Road Rehabilitation: Bundarra Road



Grading Gwydir Park Road

Catch up on your Council Meetings

At the March Extraordinary Meeting, Council:

- Noted the 2021/22 second quarter budget review summary and adopted the adjustments to budget allocations, including transfers to and from reserves.
- Awarded project tenders: (1) Road reconstruction of

Bundarra Road west from Barbato's Corner, (2) Heavy patching on Kingstown Road, Uralla, and (3) Supply and delivery of Smooth Drum Roller.

At the April Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved to:

- Apply for a permanent special variation for 2022-23 of 2.5%.
- Approve the upgrade or replacement of the roller shutters at the Uralla and the Bundarra Council Depots.
- Apply the submission of a grant funding application of \$3,740,022 through the Fixing Country Roads Program.
- Develop a project for the upgrade of the Thunderbolts Way shoulder, directly north of Bundarra.
- Approve the request for placement of memorial garden seat, plaque and tree plantings in Porter Park to commemorate A N Porter and J Porter.
- Place the Uralla Township and Environs Committee Terms of Reference on public exhibition.
- Approved the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – Round 3 Work Schedule.
- Submit a grant application to develop and install cohesive Shire signage that is designed and located in consultation with local place-based community groups and Traditional Owners.
- Award the Stabilised Patching Services on various roads in the Uralla Shire (Arding, Kliendienst, and Kingstown Roads) contract to Stabilcorp Pty Ltd.



Meeting Dates

Meetings are open to the public subject to current COVID guidelines. Agendas, business papers, minutes, and meeting webcasts are published on Council's website at uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings

Ordinary Meeting of Council
Tuesday, 24 May 2022, 9:30am,
Council Chambers.

Council Workshops and Public Forums Refer to Public Notices on the Council website for details.

Your Councillors



Mayor

Robert Bell

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Cr Tim Bower

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Cr Sarah Burrows

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Deputy Mayor

Cr Bob Crouch

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Cr Leanne Doran

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Cr Bruce McMullen

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Cr Lone Petrov

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Cr Tom O'Connor

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Cr Tara Toomey

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General Manager

Ms Kate Jessep

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Email: council@uralla.nsw.gov.au

Council Website: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

Tourism Website: www.uralla.com

Emergency Contacts

After-Hours and Public Holidays

Council Overseer: 0427 784 982

Water / Sewer: 0427 784 304

Report all Fires: 000

SES (Flood/Storm): 132 500