

Uralla Shire Council

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Deputy Mayor: Cr Robert Spreadborough

General Manager: Mr Tom O'Connor

Uralla Administration

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0428 406 517

February 2010 Council Resolutions

Highlights of Council's Ordinary meeting of 22 February 2010 include the following resolutions:

- That Council comply with the request from the Deputy Director General (Local Government) requesting to refrain from committing itself to any major policy change or decisions which may have a significant financial impact for the organisation during the period of the Review of Local Government Service Delivery in the New England Area.
- That Council note the continued squeezing of the finances of local authorities in New South Wales by the announcement of the Minister for Local Government, Hon B Perry, of the pegging of the increase allowed for rate increases for the year 2010/2011 to 2.6%, being much less than anticipated cost increases especially State Government and State Instrumentality Charges and write to the Local Government and Shires Association (LGSA), noting the 2.6% increase in the rate pegging percentage, requesting that the Association once again take up the matter of the decrease in the percentage increase with the Government.
- That Council note the commencement of the NSW Electronic Housing Code Pilot Project by the Department of Planning and the Local Government and Shires Association.
- That Council not approve Development Application 452/2010 for subdivision by way of objection under State Environmental Planning Policy 1 for the land known as Lot 201 DP 1074880 as the proponent has not demonstrated special circumstances of a compelling kind to justify the exercise of discretion.
- That Council subsidise an administration charge of \$1,800 for the Bundarra Neighbourhood Aid Service for the 2009/2010 financial year.
- That Council utilise the services of Local Government Procurement wherever appropriate.

Resolutions cont:

- That Council provide financial assistance of \$1,500 to the Uralla Super Stakes Cutting Horse Event to be held in Kentucky from 16 to 18 April 2010 to assist with advertising costs.
- That Council endorse the affixing of the Uralla Shire Council seal by the Mayor and General Manager to the Deed of Variation accepting one-off grant funding for Kamilaroi Ageing and Disability Service under the National Respite for Carers Program and the Lease Agreement with the Country Women's Association of New South Wales to rent premises in Rivers Street Inverell which is used by the Kamilaroi Ageing and Disability Service.
- That Council approve the construction of a cul de sac towards the northern end of Fitzroy Street North with a one way entry from Thunderbolts Way to the cul de sac.

URALLA SUBCATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Creekworks – Uralla Creek

Soil Conservation Service operators, a professional tree control operator and Council Staff have been working on stabilisation and erosion control projects along Uralla Creek, above and below the highway bridge. Stream bank corners have been stabilised and strengthened using rock structures, in-stream erosion is to be curtailed with rock groynes in various localities and two rock drains have been built at Duke Street and Park Street stormwater outlets. Particular attention has been paid to the works in Porter Park. Council has provided granite rock to improve the visual amenity in the Park. This work forms part of the Uralla Subcatchment Management Plan and is a result of three years of planning by Council and partner organisations, with funding from Border Rivers Gwydir CMA and NSW Environmental Trust, delivered through the Landcare network. Council would like to thank the residents for their patience during these works in the town area. More work is being scheduled for later in the year, including attractive rock works on Rocky Creek through Alma Park.

PUBLIC MEETING

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL'S FUTURE

WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

Uralla Shire Council invites the Uralla Shire Community to hear and discuss Council's position in relation to the Review of Local Government Service Delivery in the New England Area that has requested that Council and the Community put forward opinions and ideas.

**Thursday 18 March 2010 at 7pm
in Uralla Central School Auditorium**

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2010 VOLUME 18.3

**The emergency number after hours or on Public Holidays is
0427 784 982**

The next Council Meeting
will be held at 12 noon on
22 March 2010
at the Council Chambers,
Salisbury Street, Uralla.

Full details of all reports to Council's next Meeting are contained in Council's **Meeting Agendas** which are available for public viewing at Bundarra General Store, Invergowrie General Store, Kentucky General Store, Kingstown General Store, Uralla Shire Council Chambers, Uralla Visitor Information Centre and on the website.

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT OPTIONS

Tablelands Community Support Options is auspiced by Uralla Shire Council, funded by the State and Australian Government and provides services to people who are aged or have a disability, and to their carers who live in the New England area.

Tablelands Community Support Options manages the following services:

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY OPTIONS:

Provides comprehensive assessment and case management to assist the aged, people with a disability and their carers, to access HACC services. Specific funding received to assist the Aboriginal community.

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CARE PACKAGES:

A complete package of services for elderly people who wish to remain in their own homes. Specific funding is also received to assist the Aboriginal community.

TABLELANDS RURAL AND REMOTE RESPITE SERVICE:

A recreational respite service for people with a disability aged 16 to 65 years.

TABLELANDS RESPITE FOR CARERS OF PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA:

An in home/out of home respite service for carers of people with dementia.

NARWON ELDERS GROUP

A social group for the elders in the Armidale and Uralla community who meet to share a meal, friendship, discussions and outings.

For further information

Ring us: 02 6778 3006 Fax us: 02 6778 3028

Email us tcco@tcomcare.org

Visit us: Uralla Community Centre, Hill Street, Uralla, NSW, 2358

Write to us: PO Box 48, Uralla, NSW, 2358

For RSL Memorial Hall Bookings contact the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre on 6778 3277.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL STREET STORE ALLOCATIONS

A rent free store is made available as Council's contribution towards community organisations.

During the months of March/April the following organisations will be holding stalls and would appreciate your support :

Uralla Ladies League Tag	- week ended 7/3/10
St John's Anglican Church	- week ended 14/3/10
CWA Uralla Branch	- week ended 21/3/10
Kentucky Memorial Hall	- week ended 28/3/10
United Hospital Auxiliaries	- week ended 4/4/10
NE Wigs & Headware Library	- week ended 11/4/10
St Mark's Kentucky	- week ended 18/4/10
Women's Aux RSL	- week ended 25/4/10

Council wishes each organisation success in their fund raising efforts which in turn provides assistance and support to members of our community.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

A luncheon to celebrate International Women's Day will be held on Friday 19 March 2010 at Uralla Golf Club. A Guest Speaker will attend. Invitations have been mailed, however all women are encouraged to join the celebration.

Cost is \$12.50.

For enquiries please contact Cr Isabel Strutt on 6778 3239 or Mobile 0424299614 or the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre on 6778 3277.

MEET THE AUTHOR—URALLA LIBRARY

Barry Wilks, author of "Come in Spinner", will be at Uralla Library on Sunday, 21 March at 3pm. His book, full of pictures, details a positive discovery of overcoming obstacles whilst leading a rewarding life.

Barry has many wonderful memories of his life from childhood, through adulthood till present to share with you.

A cuppa will be served while you have time to chat with Barry and share your own memories.

BLACKBERRY CONTROL

New England Weeds Authority advise they have nearly completed blackberry spraying on our roads and village areas and will be soon turning their attention to plants in Uralla gardens and roadsides. If you would like help with blackberry control in your garden please ring and leave a message for Weeds Officer, Matthew Benham on 67703602.

BRIDGE CLOSURE

Salisbury Waters Bridge on the Enmore Road will be closed for major upgrade work from Saturday, 10 April 2010 to Friday, 16 April 2010. The alternate route is via Uralla. Council apologises for any inconvenience caused by the closure.

Please contact Mr Robert Bell for further enquiries on 6778 6309.

URALLA LANTERN PARADE

celebrating EARTH HOUR

in Alma Park

on Saturday, 27 March 2010



DECORATE A LANTERN WORKSHOP

from 4pm at Uralla Central School - all ages welcome - Purchase a lantern for \$10, decorate it and carry it in the parade. Sausage sizzle available.

LANTERN PARADE MUSTER 6.30pm at the school

LANTERN PARADE KICKS OFF 7.15pm - travels from the school, down Queen Street to Alma Park.

FINALE - "The Universe's Daughter" featuring children, local dancers and the Uralla Community Choir. Performance begins approximately 8pm. Turn up and bring a blanket to sit on.

DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED??

Lantern Lifters, Lantern Makers, Parade Marshalls, and Helpers needed! Enquiries: 0420 201 254 or email admin@uralla-arts.com

Website: www.uralla-arts.com

The 4th Annual Uralla Lantern Parade is presented by Uralla Arts Inc with the assistance of Phoenix Foundry and Uralla Shire Council.

Uralla Shire Council

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NUMBER: DA-13-2010

Uralla Shire Council has received an application from P and G Barker to erect a dual occupancy building and a two lot subdivision at 15 King Street, Uralla.

The application may be inspected at the Uralla Shire Council office during business hours. Any person may make a written submission in relation to the development application. Submissions must be received by Uralla Shire Council in writing before close of business on 30 March 2010.

Should you have further enquiries please contact Council Officers by telephoning 67786300.

Tom O'Connor
GENERAL MANAGER

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
32 Salisbury Street
URALLA NSW 2358

REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE DELIVERY

BACKGROUND

The Uralla Shire Council was in an Alliance with the Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire, Walcha and Weeds County Councils until 30 September 2009. The Department of Local Government carried out a Better Practice Review of the Alliance in February 2009. This Better Practice Review was updated following the collapse of the Alliance and issued in December 2009.

One of the recommendations within the Better Practice Review (December 2009) was that "The Minister should appoint an independent person to facilitate a review of the arrangements for delivery of local government services in the areas served by the Councils".

On Thursday, 21 January 2010, the Minister, Hon Barbara Perry, announced that she had appointed Mrs Gabrielle Kibble AO to carry out the Review. Details of the Terms of Reference can be downloaded from www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/NESACReview or information packages are available from the Council Office or any Uralla Councillor.

The Uralla Shire Council welcomes the Review and will be making a detailed submission after consultation with the Community on the service delivery currently provided and the options for the provision of these and other services into the future.

Council held a consultation meeting with the residents of Bundarra on Thursday, 11 March 2010 and will be holding a similar meeting with Uralla and surrounding areas next Thursday, 18 March 2010, at the Uralla Central School Auditorium commencing at 7.00pm.

Mrs Kibble will be attending a public consultation meeting on Tuesday, 20 April 2010, commencing at 7.00pm at the Uralla Bowling Club. As this is the only public consultation meeting to be held in Uralla, Council will be arranging for transport from Bundarra and Kingstown. Speakers at the public consultation meeting will be limited, so if you wish to speak, please ring the General Manager on 6778 6302 or email toconnor@uralla.nsw.gov.au for a place.

THE COUNCIL'S POSITION

The Uralla Shire Councillors, in a workshop prior to the February Council meeting, considered a number of opportunities (or options) to better serve the communities of New England. At the Council meeting, Council resolved broadly to remain an autonomous rural council and take every opportunity for alliances and cooperation with any other council in the region.

FACT / FICTION

During times of intense public interest and debate, information is discussed that is either fact, based on fact or fiction. Some of the following are currently doing the rounds:

• Council is broke – "Fiction"

Council is a \$16 million per annum business and on 9 March 2010 it had \$1,521,145.06 in the bank or on call, \$4,568,622.79 on one month to four month maturing term deposits or in other words \$6,089,767.85 readily available (9 March last year this was \$5,282,698.10). Council also has \$327,500 tied up in CDOs and \$500,000 in FRNs.

• Council expends 166% of its rates on employee costs - "True but Irrelevant"

Council paid \$6,219,000 in employee costs while raising \$3,743,000 in rates and annual charges for 2008/2009. This is irrelevant because Council received \$3,956,000 in contracted grants for Community Services that are provided not only to Uralla residents but also New England / North West. The Community Services employee costs was \$2,298,000 in 2008/2009.

• Uralla Shire Council is heavily dependant upon Grants – "Half Truth"

Council received \$9,486,000 or 59% of its income in grants in 2008/2009, which included Community Grants \$3,956,000, Regional Road Grants \$1,083,000, Maitland Point Bridge Replacement \$703,000, Roads to Recovery \$422,000 and Financial Assistance Grants \$2,396,000.

Regional Roads and Maitland Point had to be matched with Council's own funds. Council has been very successful in obtaining grants and contributions and will continue this effort, particularly in the emerging environmental grants area.

AUTONOMOUS / STAND ALONE

There is a subtle difference between being 'autonomous' and in 'standing alone'. Standing alone suggests isolation, which infers you build a fence around the Shire and do everything ourselves.

Autonomy means that Council would remain a separate organisation and outsource those services that are more effectively done by others and providing services to others that we can more effectively do for them. The end result is maintained local responsiveness with more efficient and effective delivery of services not only to Uralla but also to other areas of New England / North West.

NEXT PHASE

Anyone with an interest in future direction of your local government, and that should be everyone, is reminded of the Public Consultation Meeting with Mrs Gabrielle Kibble on Tuesday, 20 April 2010 at the Uralla Bowling Club commencing at 7.00pm.

Youth Week Launch, Uralla 12-13 April 2010

Activity Tuesday 6th to Friday 9th April want to help paint the MURAL on the Uralla Water Tower call 6778 4089
7th and 8th April Youth Mental Health First Aid Course, Armidale FREE register on 6765 78 96 Need transport to get there call 6778 4089

Activities, Monday, 12 April 2010

<i>McCrossin's Mill Salisbury Street, Uralla</i>		<i>Memorial Hall Salisbury Street, Uralla</i>	
10am – 12 noon	<i>All the community are welcome to the -</i> Official Launch by Local Member: Hon Richard Torbay Minister for Youth: Hon Peter Primrose Politicians versus Young people Debate: Tune FM broadcasting debate live from McCrossin's Mill	12 noon	Sausage Sizzle \$2.00
12-1.00pm	Sit down Lunch: \$15.00 per head must book 6778 4089	12noon – 5pm	Mobile Wall Climbing \$5.00 for all the climbs you can do Tune FM broadcasting from Memorial Hall all afternoon
6.30pm- 8.00pm	Youth Safe-Parents Interactive Program a fun and informative workshop for parents to exploring risk, consequences of dangerous risk taking, getting your teenagers to make safer choices, hosting a party FREE please register on 6778 4089. Let the kids go next door!	10.00-5.00pm	Youth Service Information Exhibition -over thirist organizations will have their information and youth staff available such as OOHC, YOUTH SAFE, PCYC, Centrelink, Banks, refuges, HNEAHS Youth Mental Health, advocacy, educational, recreational other services
		6.30pm -8.30pm	Movie in Uralla Memorial HALL \$2.00 everyone MP3 Prizes for the best movie star lookalikes. (Under 10, 11-15 and 15-18 and 18-24 years)

Activities, Tuesday, 13 April 2010

<i>Community College Old Court House, Hill Street, Uralla</i>		<i>Memorial Hall Salisbury Street, Uralla</i>	
10-12 noon	Jewellery Making (bracelets and earrings) \$15 Book on 6778 4089	10 - 1pm	Youth Safe – Bicycle Safety and Maintenance FREE Bring your bike and learnt to mend a puncture, change
2-3.30pm	Budgeting with the NAB (venue to be confirmed) FREE		More activities to be confirmed!