

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Central Coast Council held in the Gnomon Room, Wharf Precinct, Ulverstone on Monday, 30 November 2020 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present

Cr Jan Bonde (Mayor)
Cr Amanda Diprose
Cr Annette Overton
Cr Tony van Rooyen

Cr John Beswick
Cr Casey Hiscutt
Cr Philip Viney

General Manager (Ms Sandra Ayton)
Strategic Projects and Planning Consultant (Mr Paul West)
Director Organisational Services (Mr Ian Stoneman)
Executive Services Officer (Mrs Lou Brooke)
GM and Mayor's Personal Assistant (Miss Lauren Clarke)

Mr John de Jong
Mr Lionel Bonde
Mr Jake Weeda

Apologies

The Hon. Leonie Hiscutt MLC
Cr Garry Carpenter (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Cheryl Fuller
Director Infrastructure Services (Mr Paul Breaden)

Media attendance

The media was not represented.

Opening of meeting

The Mayor, in opening the meeting and welcoming those in attendance:

- . advised that the Annual General Meeting had been called in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*;
- . advised that notice of the Annual General Meeting was given in The Advocate newspaper on Saturday 31 October

- . referred the public in attendance to the agenda prepared for the meeting and which incorporated procedures for the conduct of the meeting.

Confirmation of the Minutes

- Cr Beswick moved and Cr Viney seconded, “That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 November 2019, as circulated be confirmed.”

Carried unanimously

Introduction of councillors

The Mayor introduced the attending Councillors and Council staff to the meeting.

Annual Report

The Mayor reported that the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2020, including financial statements and audit opinion, had been advertised as available to the public from the Administration Centre and Service Centre and on the Council’s website. Electors were invited to make written submissions relating to the Annual Report.

The Mayor spoke in support of the Annual Report.

Additional comments were provided by the General Manager with a PowerPoint display of highlights from the Annual Report.

The Mayor called for questions from the floor in regard to the presentation. No questions relating to the Annual Report were received.

Submissions

One written submission was received from Mr Lionel Bonde and is reproduced below along with responses to his questions.

Submission opening:

I intend to ask the following questions at the General Ratepayers Meeting on 30 November:

Item 1

Coastal Pathway – Due to the large increase in the interest of mountain bikes on the coast, has the Council given thought that this increase could impact heavily on the demand for the Coastal Pathway, and the justification of building such a costly venture in a shifting sporting venture?

Response

The Cradle Coast Shared Pathway is a regional project with committed Federal and State Government funding. Its major use extends beyond mountain biking, catering for pedestrians, cyclists and other forms of wheeled vehicles such as mobility scooters, prams, etc. Mountain biking has become very popular and appeals to a specific user group. Specialised mountain bike tracks are available across the State and it is not envisaged that usage of the Shared Pathway will be conflicted or reduced due to this.

Item 2

Culture Centre – we read where the cost of the new Culture Centre has blown out to exceed ten (10) million dollars. Has the contribution from the State and Federal Governments also increased in tune with the increased building costs. Could we have a current costing program released?

Response

The costing for the Ulverstone Cultural Precinct project (\$10.6m) has previously been provided publicly.

At its Ordinary Council meeting held on 22 June 2020, the Council approved the 2020–2021 Budget Estimates, which included an allocation of \$1.0m. for the Science Centre, History Museum and dome at the Cultural Precinct.

Further to this, at a Special Council Meeting held 6 July 2020, the Council approved the Guaranteed Maximum Price contract with Fairbrother Pty Ltd for construction of the Cultural Precinct. In a media release on 15 July 2020, the Mayor announced the official turning of the sod ceremony and reconfirmed the \$10.6m. project, funded by the Council in partnership with the State and Federal Governments.

Reproduced below is the funding allocations for the project:

FUNDING ALLOCATION	\$ (EXC. GST)
Australian Federal Government	2,500,000
Tasmanian Government	2,500,000
Central Coast Council contribution (Borrowings)	3,500,000
Council contribution (Borrowings) – via Accelerated Local Government Capital Program	1,500,000
Capital funding in the 2020–2021 Capital Council contribution – Federal Assistance Grant to Council))	600,000
<i>TOTAL FUNDING</i>	<i>\$10,600,000</i>

Item 3

Access Reibey Street – It appears the vast changes in the western approach to Reibey Street will make it much more difficult to access Reibey Street from the western end. Was any consideration given to installing a small roundabout similar to the one in Grove–James Streets which is satisfactory. Is it too late to consider that it is needed because of the already overloading of the bridge site?

Response

It is too late to consider changing the design, several options were considered during the design phase of the Kings Parade and Queen’s Garden Project. The Council conducted extensive community consultation in relation to the project designs prior to making their final determination. The final design, that is currently under construction, will see improved intersection safety for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers as well as improved pavements along Kings Parade, and rehabilitation of the historic Queen’s Garden.

Item 4

Eastlands Drive roundabout – This is a sorry mess of shrubs and undergrowth and is in a disgraceful state. Has the Council considered removing all the vegetation and creating a clean work free roundabout, if not could the Council do a clean up job that is urgently needed?

Response

Maintenance on the Eastlands Drive roundabout has been arranged and will be undertaken in the week commencing 30 November 2020.

The maintenance arrangement between parties (Department of State Growth and the Council) has been reviewed and the Council will continue to maintain the area into the future.

Item 5

Westella Drive is a very busy road, in a sad state of disrepair with an urgent need to repair the edges in several places. The traffic on this road deserves a road capable of accommodating all modes of traffic that it has, such as bikes, foot traffic and all motor vehicles, it really needs the full works of filling in the drain on the southern side and widening of the road for future heavy use. Has the Council plans to progress?

Response

The section between Stubbs Road to Forth Road will be partially undertaken as part of subdivisional works in 2021–2022 and the section between Forth Road to Turners Beach Road will be undertaken in 2026–2027. The Council's Long-term Financial Plan does not currently include an upgrade for the section of Westella Drive to the west of Stubbs Road, Turners Beach.

Item 6

Parking Coles – Furners car park is a nightmare for parking on a wet day, where people are standing in quite deep water to load their groceries into their car. This is happening every wet day for the past three years. Has the Council plans to address this?

Response

Council staff regularly inspect and clean the drain to prevent blockage, unfortunately there are times when blockages and rain events coincide which create a water build-up. An alternative arrangement is being investigated to ensure this is not an ongoing long-term problem.

Item 7

Water charges and restrictions. We had water restrictions last year, which was the first time for many years. On enquiring, I am not clear what the problem was, as there was no shortage of water in the Forth River, but there seemed to be a problem in meeting the water demand on a given day, hence the restrictions to alleviate that. We read that dam storage is lower than this time last year, so are we looking at further restrictions this year. The Central Coast Council has an interest in the water

complex so should be aware of the shortage of supply, and could we have a review of the situation?

Response

TasWater are proactive in contacting the Council if there are likely to be any restrictions that may come into effect. TasWater has a Corporate Plan (2021–2025) which is agreed to by shareholders to gradually implement improvements in the system.

At this stage, the Council has not received any information on likely water restrictions but has contacted TasWater to discuss whether there is a likelihood of any restrictions this year.

Since the release of the agenda, the General Manager advised at the meeting that a response relating to water restrictions had been received from TasWater. Currently TasWater do not foresee any restrictions for the coming season as current water stores are full.

Any other business

The Mayor invited questions or comments from the floor.

. Mr Jake Weeda raised a number of comments and questions:

- 1 Acknowledged the Annual Report, it was a fantastic job by the staff and noted disappointment at only seeing three ratepayers attend.
- 2 On pg.98 of the Annual Report sought further information in relation to the Fuso Fighter 1670 truck from CJD Equipment Pty Ltd, as \$313,000 seems a lot for a truck, curious as to what it is used for.

The Mayor advised that the questions would be taken on notice and a response provided.

- 3 FOGO is great. (*general comment*)
- 4 Raised concern around a number of unoccupied shops in West Ulverstone, built over public footpaths. Enquired if anyone (Council staff) has made sure they are structurally sound, as some shops have been closed for a number of years. Suggested the Engineering Department may want to inspect them, as they are starting to 'lean'.

The Mayor noted Mr Weeda's comment.

- 5 No obituary for Max Johnston was placed in the newspaper, as it would have been nice to acknowledge him as a former Councillor and for bringing the waterslide to Ulverstone.

The Mayor advised that Mr Johnston's passing was formally acknowledged (and minuted) at the September 2019 Council meeting.

- 6 The walking and bike tracks, can the Council make them wider than those in the park? *(tabled as a comment only)*

- 7 TasWater is a major issue, cannot understand why a Certificate for Certifiable Works cannot be issued at the same time as Planning. Can the Council take this matter up with TasWater?

The Mayor advised that if Mr Weeda wished to put it in writing, the Council would facilitate forwarding the comments to TasWater.

Mr Weeda acknowledged the Mayor's comment and advised (in general) that if he has issues or concerns, he writes to the Mayor, Councillors, General Managers or Directors.

In closing, Mr Weeda acknowledged from the floor, the amazing work that is done by the Council.

. Mr Lionel Bonde

Expressed his disappointment in the number of people that attended the Annual General Meeting and acknowledged the effort of the Council over the past year.

■ Mr Jake Weeda moved and Cr Diprose seconded, "That the Annual Report be received."

Carried unanimously

Projects happening in 2020–2021

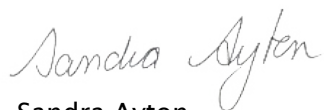
The Mayor in closing, advised of projects from 2021–2021 Annual Plan:

. The Ulverstone Cultural Precinct naming launch and opening;

- Construction of the Leith to Turners Beach section of the Coastal Pathway will commence in the new year;
- The final design stages of Penguin to Sulphur Creek section of the Coastal Pathway are being prepared for submission of a Development Application, as well as the Queen Street to Rockliff Road section;
- Cultural Heritage Study to be undertaken;
- Central Coast Tree Strategy to be developed;
- Further work on the Council's Waste Strategy to be undertaken;
- Commence stage one of the Reconciliation Action Plan with Reconciliation Tasmania;
- Review of the entrance to Penguin (at the western end);
- Stage 2 of the Penguin Foreshore inc. Perry Ling Gardens;
- Revitalisation of Reibey Street Inc. Apex Park, to increase vibrancy within the CBD.

Close of meeting

The Mayor closed the meeting at 7.57pm and, in doing so, thanked those in attendance for their participation.



Sandra Ayton
GENERAL MANAGER