

Agenda

B Ward Committee Meeting **20 May 2024**

A B Ward Committee Meeting will be held in the Ballina Shire Council Chambers, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina on **20 May 2024 commencing at 4:30pm.**

1. Acknowledgment of Country
2. Attendance and Apologies (including updates/changes in membership)
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Presentations
5. Confirmation of Minutes – Monday, 18 March 2024
6. Business Arising from Minutes - Monday, 18 March 2024
7. Business With Notice
8. General Business
9. Business Without Notice
10. Council Documents on Exhibition
11. Next Meeting/Future Meeting Dates
12. Meeting Closure

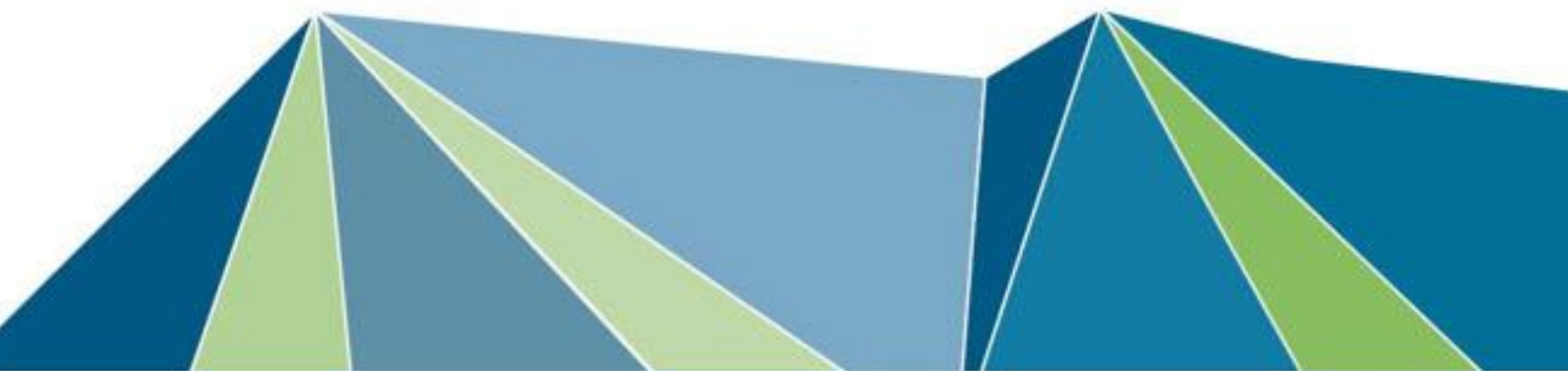


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1. Acknowledgment of Country
 2. Attendance and Apologies (including updates/changes in membership)
 3. Declarations of Interest
 4. Deputations
 5. Confirmation of Minutes
-

1. Acknowledgment of Country

In opening the meeting, the Chair will provide an Acknowledgement of Country.

We acknowledge the Nyangbul peoples of the Bundjalung nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

2. Attendance and Apologies (including updates/changes in membership)

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Presentations

5. Confirmation of Minutes

A copy of the Minutes of the B Ward Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 March 2024 were distributed with the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee confirms the Minutes of the B Ward Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 March 2024.

6.1 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Lennox Chamber of Commerce - Relocation of RFS and New Car Parking

6. Business Arising from Minutes

6.1 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Lennox Chamber of Commerce - Relocation of RFS and New Car Parking

Recommendation from 18 March meeting:

2. The Committee requested the Public Art Committee consider if public art can be incorporated onto the project's boundary fence.
3. The Committee requested information on the status of replacing the mural on the reservoir at Lennox Head.

Update

Staff have provided the following update.

2. The boundary fence around the new fire shed at Lennox Head can be included on the agenda for the next meeting of Council's Public Art Advisory Panel as a site to consider for public art. Installation of public art at this location would be subject to funding priorities.
3. Council's Public Art Advisory Panel has considered replacing the mural on the water reservoir on North Creek Road, Lennox Head but will revisit the proposal once the surrounding residential development is complete and the impact on sightlines from public viewing points to the mural can be determined.

Attachment(s)

Nil

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Lennox Head Residents Association - Request for E-Bike Education Program

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Lennox Head Residents Association - Request for E-Bike Education Program

The Committee requested a road safety program be implemented specifically targeting e-bike and bike riding on the footpath in the Lennox Head CBD.

Update

Community education and compliance response has commenced with:

- 1 Liaison with police on compliance.
- 2 Liaison with police and Road Safety Education Officers (Dept of Education) regarding education for school students.
- 3 Information distribution through Visitor Information Centre, Council, and Council website.
- 4 Preparation of material for Community Connect newsletter.
- 5 Bollard signage promoting 'walk your wheels' in CBD areas of Lennox Head and Ballina, and shared path etiquette

Discussions are ongoing with Transport for NSW for other community awareness options.

Attachment(s)

Nil

6.3 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Lennox Head Residents Association - Commemorative Plaque - Ross Park

6.3 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Lennox Head Residents Association - Commemorative Plaque - Ross Park

The Committee resolved the following recommendation:

1. The plaques attached to the rock be reinstated in Ross Park.
2. The Council retain and display as appropriate the Tidy Town Award plaques.

Update

As part of recent upgrade works at Ross Park (Lennox Village Vision), several old commemorative plaques were removed. These were removed in accordance with the adopted plan for the Ross Park refurbishment.

These plaques consisted of:

- Tidy Towns (2nd Place) 1984
- Tidy Towns (1st Place) 1985
- Beach management Works Opening – 1993
- Water Supply Opening – 1988
- Water Supply Connection – 1968 (attached to rock)

The endorsed plans for the Lennox Head village centre refurbishment works did not incorporate retention or display of the plaques and the reinstatement of these plaques in the public domain is not planned.

Separately, a new plaque commemorating the 2022 Lennox Centenary is planned within the refurbished shelter shed.

The approach in Lennox Head is consistent with the removal of other tidy town plaques in association with public domain renewal works, noting plaques were removed and not reinstated at EA Brown Park consistent with the adopted master plan for that site.

Attachment(s)

Nil

6.4 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Small VMS

6.4 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Small VMS

Cr Ramsey requested Council purchase a small VMS that has the capability to add messages to the radar signs to enhance our road safety program.

Update

VMS suitable for word messaging are only available in very large sizes, and would not be suitable for residential streets. When Council requires signage of this type, we hire it for short terms with messaging compliant with Transport for NSW guidelines.

Council currently has one small speed display which is generally deployed in 50km/h streets in response to community concerns around speeding in urban streets. This unit reads a vehicle speed, and then displays either a happy or sad face. It is not capable of displaying written messages. The speed display works best away from parked vehicles and without interference of overhead powerlines, so locations must be selected carefully.

The purchase cost of these units is approximately \$10,000. There are additional costs relating to relocation and maintenance for the speed display. The current single speed display is meeting community demand, as the unit is relocated on a regular basis. If community demand for additional speed display units increased, a budget review would be conducted along with a review to ensure any new signage purchases are fit for purpose.

Attachment(s)

Nil

6.5 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - New Market Operator

6.5 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - New Market Operator

The Committee noted the introduction of a new market operator maybe a convenient time to resolve the longstanding concern of the Combined Sports Association regarding the market's impact on the condition of Williams Reserve.

Update

Playing surface maintenance works currently planned following the winter sports season. Timing and other details will be subject to any new proposal for operation of a market on Williams Reserve (planning approval is in place for a market to operate at Williams Reserve).

Attachment(s)

Nil

6.6 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Speed Data - Ballina Street Pedestrian Shared Zone - Update

6.6 Business Arising from Minutes of 18 March 2024 - Speed Data - Ballina Street Pedestrian Shared Zone - Update

The Committee noted staff were arranging the collection of speed data for the Ballina Street pedestrian shared zone.

Update

Council has been investigating options for measuring vehicle speeds in the Lennox Head shared zone. This would involve installation of road tubes across the shared zone. Field crews have now assessed the feasibility of tube data and advise that it is not possible as installation of tubes would damage the new surface of the shared zone and would generate localised noise issues. Options for installing the tubes at the immediate entries and exits of the shared zone would not deliver an accurate measure of vehicle speed in the shared zone.

Council continues to liaise with police on compliance and to monitor community feedback, noting mixed correspondence with some people expressing concern about driver compliance and others providing positive feedback about the effectiveness of the zone.

Attachment(s)

Nil

7.1 Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2024/25 - 2027/28

7. General Business

7.1 Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2024/25 - 2027/28

This report provides information on Council's draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan for the four-year period from 2024/25 to 2027/28.

The Office of Local Government's (OLG's) Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework require councils to regularly review the Delivery Program and prepare a new Operational Plan each financial year.

A summary of the major elements for each document is as follows.

Delivery Program

- A council must have a Delivery Program, that identifies major projects and services it will undertake to achieve the objectives established in the Community Strategic Plan, within the resources available under the Resourcing Strategy.
- A council must prepare a new Delivery Program after each ordinary election of councillors to cover the activities of the council for the four-year period commencing on 1 July following the election. The Delivery Plan is based on a four-year plan.
- The General Manager must ensure that progress reports are provided to the council, with respect to the activities detailed in the Delivery Program, at least every six months. Council receives quarterly updates.
- A council must review its Delivery Program each year when preparing the Operational Plan.

Operational Plan

- Council must have an annual Operational Plan, adopted before the beginning of each financial year, outlining the activities to be undertaken that year, as part of the Delivery Program. The Operational Plan focuses on actions and activities to be delivered during the current year.
- The draft Operational Plan must be publicly exhibited for at least 28 days and public submissions can be made to Council during the period.
- Council must consider any submissions made on the draft Operational Plan before adopting the Operational Plan.
- A copy of the adopted Operational Plan must be placed on the Council website, within 28 days after the Plan is adopted.

Council produces a combined document that encompasses the Delivery Program and the Operational Plan.

7.1 Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2024/25 - 2027/28

This combined document will be on exhibition from 6 May to 5 June 2024 for public comment. Other documents on exhibition, at the same, as part of the IPR Framework, include the Long-Term Financial Plan, Council's detailed budget, the Workforce Management Plan and the Strategic Asset Management Plan.

Items that are typically of interest to the community in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, include the proposed changes in rates and charges for the next financial year, major capital works planned and any other key actions that Council will be undertaking.

In respect to rates and charges the average increase for a residential property for 2024/25, as compared to 2023/24 is as per the following table.

Rate or Charge	2023/24 Average	2024/25 Average	Increase (%)
Ordinary Rate (Land Rates)	1,215	1,271	4.6
Domestic Waste Collection Charge	437	438	2.5
Water Access Charge	236	250	6.0
Water Consumption (150 kilolitres)	399	423	6.0
Wastewater (Sewer) Charge	1,063	1,074	1.0
Stormwater Charge	25	25	0.0
Total	3,375	3,481	3.1

The 4.6% increase for the Ordinary Rate is the rate peg limit set by the State Government for Council for 2024/25.

The reason for the large increase in water charges, is that Council purchases the water we distribute from Rous County Council (as does Byron, Lismore and Richmond Valley), with Rous increasing their water charges to Council by approximately the same percentage for 2024/25.

This continues a number of high increases by Rous in recent years, and planned for future years, as part of their water demand strategy for the region. The purchase of bulk water from Rous, represents approximately 60% of the operating costs for Council's water operations.

Capital works planned in 2024/25 and beyond of note in the draft documents include:

- Alstonville Cultural Centre (ACC) – Council has resolved to support a refurbishment estimated to cost approximately \$16m.

The project is moving through the planning stage with the consent now issued. Grant funds remain an important funding source for this project, particularly with the library component, as there are likely to be more opportunities for library expansion grants. After grants and developer contributions, the balance of the funding will need to be sourced from Council internal reserves and loan funding.

Council is awaiting the outcome of a major Federal Government grant for approximately \$6m for this project.

- Evacuation Route Raising Ballina - Council has secured \$40m in grant funding through the State Government's Northern Rivers Recovery and Resilience (NRRR) Program.

7.1 Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2024/25 - 2027/28

The actual works component of this grant for Council is \$39.4m, with \$600,000 allocated to the State Government's audit and assurance of the project. The funding must be expended by 30 June 2026.

There are four main projects to be delivered with this funding:

- Fishery Creek Bridge Duplication (including approaches)
 - Canal Bridge Duplication and Tamarind Drive approaches (Kerr Street to Ballina Gardens Holiday Village)
 - North Creek Road Four Laning – Tamarind Drive to Southern Cross Drive
 - Evacuation Route Raising (improvements to primarily River Street to reduce flooding impacts).
- Wardell Town Centre – Council adopted the Wardell Village Centre Revitalization Master Plan in 2023, with this plan identifying three key focus areas:
 1. Connecting to the River – estimated cost \$1.1m
 2. The Street – estimated cost \$2.2m
 3. Community Green Space – estimated cost \$1.1m.

Council has approved funding for the Community Green Space, with the works scheduled for the end of 2024.

There are numerous other capital works proposed for roads, playgrounds, stormwater, sports fields etc.

Council is encouraging submissions to the draft documents, during the exhibition period, with all submissions presented to the June 2024 Ordinary Council meeting. This allows Councillors to consider the submissions, amend the documents if necessary, and adopt the documents at that meeting.

Once adopted, the role of the General Manager and senior staff is to implement the actions included in the adopted documents.

During the exhibition period, community members are also encouraged to submit questions via the YourSayBallina engagement platform. Answers to these questions will be published online.

Council will also host the following Community Information Session:

- 6pm to 7.30pm Wednesday 15 May Wardell War Memorial Hall

An online video presentation will also be available on [YourSayBallina.com.au](https://www.yoursayballina.com.au)

Attachment(s)

Nil

8.1 Business With Notice - Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce - Upgrade to Car Park at Sharpes Beach

8. Business With Notice

8.1 Business With Notice - Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce - Upgrade to Car Park at Sharpes Beach

Latest information regarding upgrade to car park at Sharpes Beach

Staff Comment

A report in response to community consultation on the draft concept plan was reported to the 24 April 2024 Ordinary council meeting.

The Council resolved the following:

“That this matter be deferred pending a report on further options.”

During the debate, Councillors expressed interest in traffic circulation, the number of parking spaces, and the impacts to the Norfolk Pine trees.

Attachment(s)

Nil

8.2 Business With Notice - Lennox Head Residents Association - Cleaning and Maintenance of New Footpaths, Ballina Street Lennox Head

8.2 Business With Notice - Lennox Head Residents Association - Cleaning and Maintenance of New Footpaths, Ballina Street Lennox Head

Is there a regular cleaning and maintenance program for the newly laid footpaths on both sides of Ballina Street between Park Lane and Byron Streets, Lennox Head?

Staff Comment

Council has just released a pressure cleaning tender for the maintenance of the CBD areas. The frequency of cleaning will be determined once staff have assessed the response from the market.

Attachment(s)

Nil

8.3 Business With Notice - Lennox Head Residents Association - New Amenities Blocks in Ross Park and Lennox Park

8.3 Business With Notice - Lennox Head Residents Association - New Amenities Blocks in Ross Park and Lennox Park

Supply of personal hygiene items (soap, paper towel and toilet paper) for the new amenities blocks in Ross Park and Lennox Park.

Staff Comment

Staff advised that double toilet rolls are installed on facilities at both Ross and Lennox parks. Council is currently undertaking an audit of soap provision at amenities throughout the Shire, noting continued issues with vandalism and safety. Consideration will be given to additional facilities at Lennox Head as part of this audit.

Attachment(s)

Nil

9. Business Without Notice

9. Business Without Notice

Nil Items

10.1 Council Documents on Exhibition

10. Council Documents on Exhibition

10.1 Council Documents on Exhibition

The following is a list of documents currently on public exhibition.

Documents on Exhibition and Community Consultation

- Development Servicing Plans – Water Supply, Wastewater and Recycled Water Infrastructure – closing date 6 June 2024
- Proposed Lease of Community Land – Ballina Heights Sports Field – closing date 20 May 2024
- Proposed Lease of Community Land – Ballina CWA Hall – closing date 16 April 2024
- Community Donations – open now until 31 May 2024 [Community Donations | Ballina Shire Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)
- Delivery Plan and Operational Program – on exhibition 6 May to 5 June

Policies

- Private Structures Within Council Owned Waterways Policy – closing date 30 April 2024
- Management of Contaminated Land Policy – closing date 30 April 2024
- Street Light Shielding Policy – closing date 30 April 2024
- Building Over or Adjacent to Council Assets Policy – closing date 30 April 2024
- Naming and Addressing Policy – closing date 28 May 2024
- Cemetery Management and Natural Burials Policy - closing date 28 May 2024
- Weddings on Public Land Policy – closing date 28 May 2024
- **2024/25 Donations - Financial Assistance for Community Groups**
For guidelines on how financial assistance is provided refer to the policy here: [Donations - Financial Assistance for Community Groups Policy](#)
Apply here: [Donations - 2025/25 Financial Assistance for Community Groups Application Form](#)
Applications close: Friday 31 May 2024
Enquiries: Nikki Glassop, Administration Officer - Corporate and Community, [Ph 1300 864 444](tel:1300864444) or email nikki.glassop@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- **2024/25 Donations - Capital Works Assistance for Community Sporting Groups**
For guidelines on how financial assistance is provided refer to the policy here: [Donations - Community Sporting Groups Capital Works Assistance Policy](#)
Apply here: [2024/25 Donations - Capital Works Assistance for Community Sporting Groups Application Form](#)
Applications close: Friday 31 May 2024
Enquiries: Luke Marshall, Open Spaces Development Officer, [Ph 1300 864 444](tel:1300864444) or email luke.marshall@ballina.nsw.gov.au

10.1 Council Documents on Exhibition

Council Notices

The Council Notices can be found on our website at the following link:

[Link to Council's Notices](#)

Attachment(s)

Nil

- 11 Next Meeting / Future Meeting Dates
 - 12 Meeting Closure
-

11. Next Meeting / Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday 15 July 2024 at 4:30pm.

- 15 July
- 18 November

12. Meeting Closure