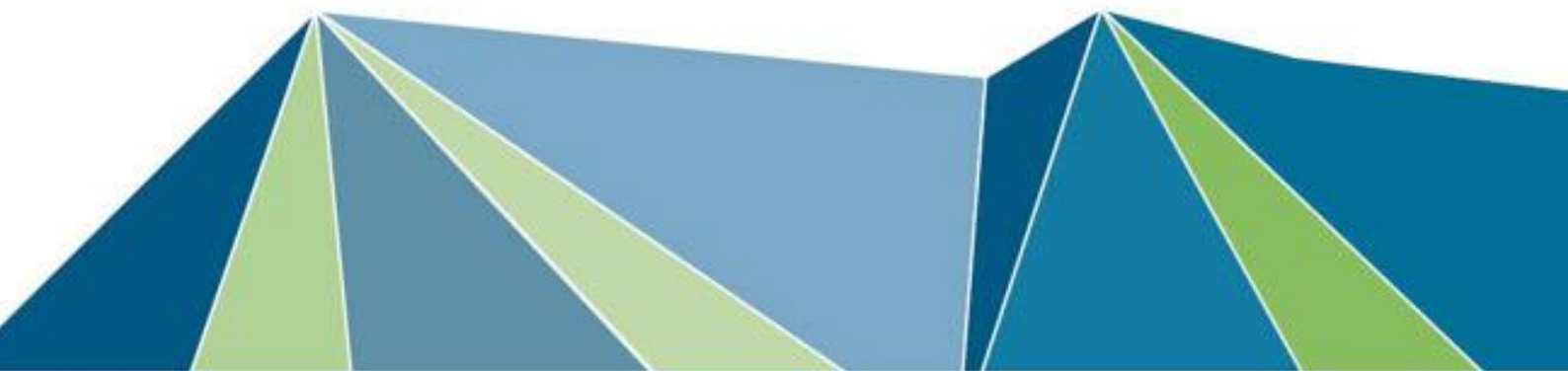


# Agenda

## ***A Ward Committee Meeting*** **13 May 2025**

An A Ward Committee Meeting will be held in the Ballina Shire Council Chambers, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina on **13 May 2025 commencing at 4:00 PM.**

1. Acknowledgment of Country
2. Attendance and Apologies (including updates/changes in membership)
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Presentations
5. Confirmation of Minutes – Tuesday, 11 March 2025
6. Business Arising from Minutes - Tuesday, 11 March 2025
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 A Ward Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11 March 2025 were distributed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Minutes of the A Ward Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11 March 2025 be confirmed with the amendment of item 9.3.

**9.2 Community Connections Expo Lennox Head**

Meg commended B Ward Councillors for Community Connections Expo Lennox.

Meg Raised concerns that a Councillor arrived in clothing representing a political party. Meg suggested that training is provided on political clothing.

Correction: Meg Pickup intended to enquire if it was part of the Councillor training.

**6.1 Business Arising from Minutes of 11 March 2025 - BES Environmental Urban Planning Report**

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**6. Business Arising from Minutes**

**6.1 Business Arising from Minutes of 11 March 2025 - BES Environmental Urban Planning Report**

Claudia Caliarì requested a formal response from Council to the BES report attached to the November minutes. A copy of this reported was included in the 11 March 2025 minutes.

**Action:** Council to provide a formal response to the BES report.

Staff comment:

A formal response was sent to the Ballina Environment Society relating to the preparation of Council's Place and Public Realm Strategy and street tree planting.

**Action:** Open Spaces section to provide a response outlining how tree planting funds (\$25,000 per annum) have been used as per the request by BES.

Staff comment:

Open Spaces provides quarterly updates to Council on the implementation of a proactive, street tree program. Comments recently reported to the April meeting, as an update for the January-March quarter are:

*Plantings scheduled for cooler weather conditions, with vegetation, management resources continuing to address tree damage associated with, Tropical Cyclone Alfred. Approximately \$8,000 has been spent this financial year on infill planting and purchase of trees in preparation for planting during the cooler months, to assist with watering requirements and available staff resources.*

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**6.2 Business Arising from Minutes of 11 March 2025 - The Ballina Peninsular Residents Association - Removal of Obstructions to Tuckombil Canal**

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**6.2 Business Arising from Minutes of 11 March 2025 - The Ballina Peninsular Residents Association - Removal of Obstructions to Tuckombil Canal**

Item 9.5 Removal of obstructions to Tuckombil Canal

Kevin Loughrey discussed the CSIRO flood report and raised concerns about the obstructions placed at Tuckombil Canal. Mr Loughrey requested Council remove obstructions and open Tuckombil Canal to reduce future flooding.

**Action:** Referred to Civil Services Division for a response.

Staff comment:

The Tuckombil Canal that Mr Loughrey is referring to is in the Richmond Valley local government area. In Table 10 of the CSIRO report, the action for Richmond Valley is to prepare a long term management plan for the site.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

7. General Business

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7. **General Business**

Nil Items

**8.1 Business With Notice - Ballina Police Station - Community Awareness Program (Property Crimes)**

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**8. Business With Notice**

**8.1 Business With Notice - Ballina Police Station - Community Awareness Program (Property Crimes)**

Doug Townsend shared information with the committee relating to the Community Awareness Program.

Refer to attachments for further information.

**Attachment(s)**

1. Community Awareness Program
2. Protect Your Home Flyer
3. Lock it or lose it Flyer



## **8.2 Business With Notice - Ballina Environment Society - List of Community Groups for Volunteers on Council's Website**

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### **8.2 Business With Notice - Ballina Environment Society - List of Community Groups for Volunteers on Council's Website**

Claudia Caliarì enquired if Council could improve volunteering opportunities on the Council website by featuring a list of community organisations, each with a summary, to help community members easily find places to volunteer.

Karen Perris (Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Lifesaving Club) and Meriel Barlow (Ballina East Lions Club Inc) also expressed support for a list of community organisations for volunteers. A central contact person to advise changes each year was also suggested.

#### **Staff Comment:**

A Community Connections Expo was held at the Lennox Head Cultural Centre in February 2025. Organised by B Ward Councillors, the free event brought together community and sporting groups to connect with residents and promote volunteering.

Council's website currently promotes volunteering opportunities it coordinates or supports, including the Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Visitor Information Centre, Airport Ambassadors, Landcare and Coastcare, Access Reference Group, and Ward Committees. These are listed on the 'Volunteer With Us' page.

Maintaining a broader directory of community groups is not feasible, as contact details and activity levels change frequently. This makes the information unreliable for community members and difficult to keep up to date without dedicated resourcing.

Council can consider adding a link to the NSW Government's [Make a Difference](#) website, which offers a regularly updated list of volunteering opportunities across the state. A message encouraging individuals to contact community groups directly to express interest in volunteering could also be included, providing more ways to get involved.

#### **Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.3 Business With Notice - Ballina Evening View Club - Vegetation Maintenance - Kerry Saxby Walkway**

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**8.3 Business With Notice - Ballina Evening View Club – Vegetation Maintenance - Kerry Saxby Walkway**

Julie Stephan requested Council regularly maintain Kerry Saxby Walkway. This heavily used pathway should be a showpiece for Ballina but is regularly overgrown with vegetation as well as encroached on each side by grass, leaf litter and sand, effectively narrowing the path and making it more difficult to safely pass other users.

**Staff Comment:**

Overall, Council's current resources provide for occasional sand removal and case by case removal of vegetation along the path.

The pathway is within a dynamic coastal environment and is subject to sand, leaf litter, and water at times. Council's current resources do not allow for a higher level of service on the pathway than is currently provided.

Following the raising of concerns, an inspection has been undertaken by Council staff, with no safety works or concerns identified warranting additional intervention at this time.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

#### **8.4 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - Living With Dementia**

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#### **8.4 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - Living With Dementia**

Meg Pickup raised that it takes a village to support a person living with dementia. How does Ballina Shire deliver a dementia friendly environment?

##### Staff Comment:

Council has supported Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance by:

- Providing \$2000 Community Assistance Donation from Council to contribute towards Dementia Inclusive Ballina Symposium on 25 October 2025.
- Providing \$2700 Community Assistance Donation from Council to contribute towards the Dementia Inclusive Alliance Symposium – Dementia Awareness week 2023.
- The Mayor provided official opening address for both of these events.
- Providing \$1000 Community Assistance Donation from Council to contribute towards costs associated with producing a quarterly newsletter for people living with dementia in 2022.
- Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance were nominated for 2023 Ballina Shire Australia Day Awards.
- Providing \$500 Community Assistance Donation from Council to contribute towards costs of materials to promote Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance in 2021/22.

##### **Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.5 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - BISC Carpark Issues**

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**8.5 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - BISC Carpark Issues**

Meg Pickup raised the following issues in the BISC carpark:

- a) the faded lines marking the parking spaces
- b) the grey water seeping from the irrigation pipes at the entrance to the carpark.

**Staff Comment:**

The line marking for the car spaces will be added to the program of works for the new financial year.

The site was also inspected, and it appears that there has been excessive irrigation that is causing the seepage. Council will check the timing on the irrigation system to help rectify this concern.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.6 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - White Line Marking the Edge of River Street, Ballina**

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**8.6 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - White Line Marking the Edge of River Street, Ballina**

At the July 2024 A Ward Committee meeting, Meg asked a question about the white line marking the edge of River Street between Kerr and Grant Streets that gave the appearance of it creating a bicycle lane on the northern side of the road. Meg recently opened her car door into the path of an e-bike at the Grant Street end of the street.

Will Council reconsider adding a visual indication that this section of the road is not a cycle path to avoid the inevitability of an accident happening?

**Staff Comment:**

Bicycle lanes are formally distinguished by signs and/or road markings, such as a road marking with a picture of a bicycle and the word 'Lane'. They are also often distinguished with green road surface painting. There are no segregated or dedicated bicycle lanes in the Ballina Shire.

The white line marking on River Street between Kerr and Grant streets does not denote a bicycle lane. The white line marking indicates the edge of the traffic lane.

Bicycle riders may choose to and have the right to ride on the road. Under the Australian Road Rules 269(3) drivers must not open their vehicle door into the path of a cyclist. Before getting out of a vehicle, drivers must check their rear view and side mirrors.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.7 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance - Poor Signposting and Lighting at the Tamarind Drive/Tintenbar Road Intersection**

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**8.7 Business With Notice - Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance – Poor Signposting and Lighting at the Tamarind Drive/Tintenbar Road Intersection**

Meg raised that at the August 2024 A Ward Committee meeting Meg asked a question about poor signposting and lighting at the Tamarind Drive/Tintenbar Road intersection.

Even though this was acknowledged as an issue, nothing has been done to rectify it. Whose responsibility is it to address this? On the evening of Sunday, April 13 2025 I witnessed an incident that could easily have resulted in an accident.

The driver of the car ahead of me, who was obviously confused, turned right into Tamarind Drive from the left hand turn lane on Tintenbar Road while a car heading north along Tamarind Drive was stopped at the intersection.

The driver of the car ahead of me then travelled a short distance along Tamarind Drive and just before the two lanes merged into one indicated then pulled off the road to the left. After I passed, the driver did a U-turn and headed in the opposite direction.

**Staff Comment:**

Engineering works will attend to provide information at the meeting.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.8 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association - Hilltop Park Update**

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**8.8 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association - Hilltop Park Update**

The Cumbalum Residents Association (CRA) request an update on the park scheduled for Ballina Heights Drive, opposite Fallow Drive (called Hilltop Park).

**Staff Comment:**

Hilltop Park is planned as part of consent conditions. The timing of the park is linked to the staged release of lots relating to the wider development. Unfortunately, we do not have a confirmed timeline for construction.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

## **8.9 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association - Traffic Management for Construction of Double Bridges**

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### **8.9 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association – Traffic Management for Construction of Double Bridges**

When construction on the two bridges commences, the traffic congestion coming from the North and South in the mornings and going the other way in the afternoons will undoubtedly increase. The CRA has received reports from frustrated residents that traffic has been banked up as far as the Alstonville turn off and as far as the Cumbalum interchange. During previous problems with the Fishery Creek bridge, traffic was diverted up the highway North to Ross Lane and then back down the highway South and into Ballina. As discussed previously, the CRA once again would like to bring attention to the delayed bypass road, Flathead Lane to Barlows Lane, which if complete, would have alleviated this problem. What is the current plan for works and mitigation / management of increased traffic congestion in an area already fraught with issues?

#### **Staff Comment:**

Item 6.3 of the A Ward Committee meeting held 12 November 2024 provided information regarding the status of the Barlows Road Project.

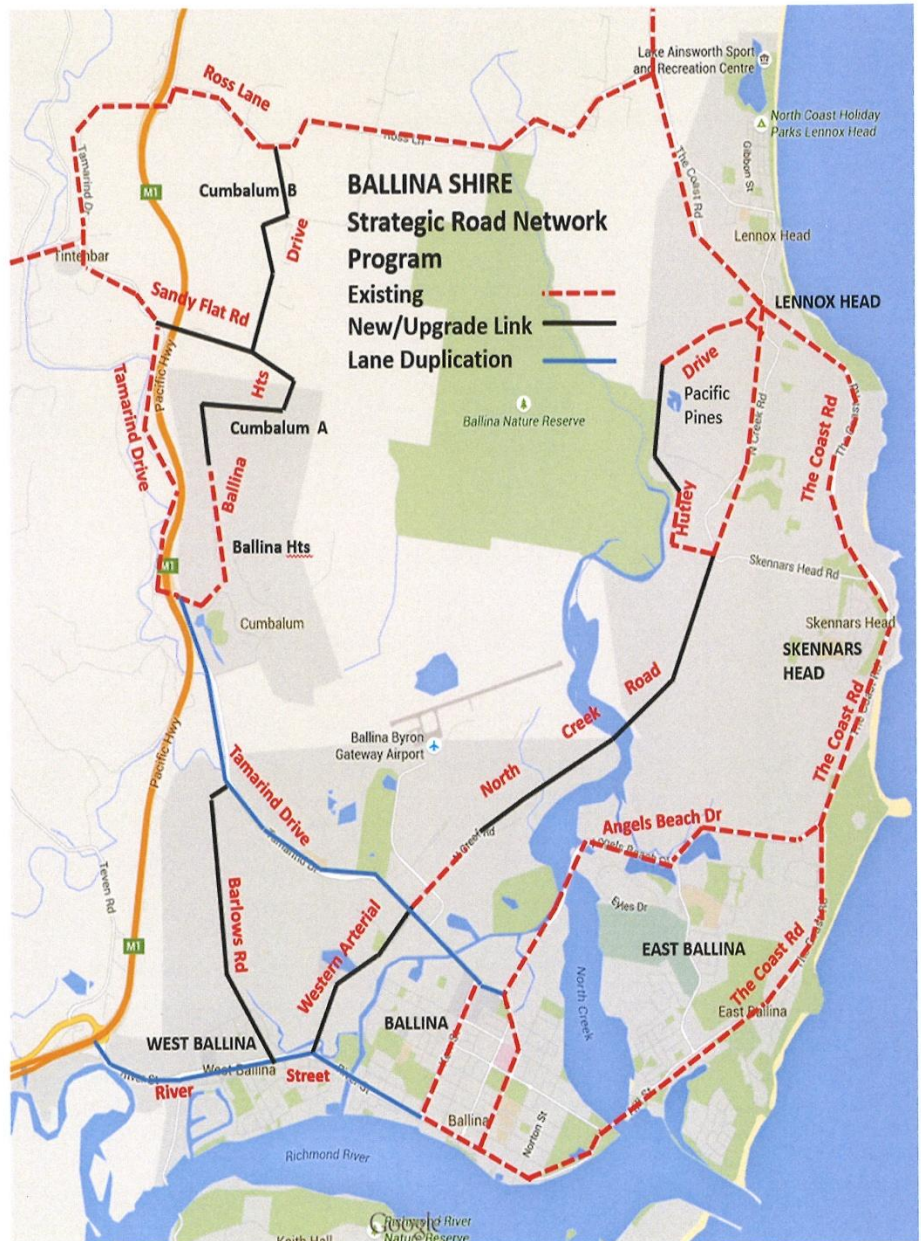
A copy of that information is following and remains current.

A report is being prepared for the May 2025 meeting of Council for the purposes of considering strategic funding allocations for key road projects in response to the current budget projections for the Bridge Duplication Projects. Council has also commenced an update of its traffic model. Traffic counts for this purpose have commenced and the model is expected to be completed in October 2025. This model update will inform Council's road upgrade strategy including a further assessment of the merit and preferred timing of the Barlows Road project.

The Bridge Duplication Project will be managed by implementing a range of temporary measures including traffic controllers, variable message signs and planning of works outside peak times. The majority of the bridge construction will be located offline from the existing road, allowing works to progress while maintaining traffic flow in both directions. Council and the contractors who are tendering for the project are aware of the traffic congestion that occurs if traffic restrictions are implemented during peak hours. We will endeavour to restrict traffic outside of peak hours during the construction works, but this will not always be possible.



## 8.9 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association - Traffic Management for Construction of Double Bridges



Attachment(s)

Nil

**8.10 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association - Banyan Hill Community Centre Update**

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**8.10 Business With Notice - Cumbalum Residents Association - Banyan Hill Community Centre Update**

Cumbalum Residents Association request an update on the planned Banyan Hill Community Centre in relation to the linked lot release.

Staff Comment:

The Community Centre is planned as part of consent conditions. The timing of the community centre is linked to the staged release of lots relating to the wider development. Unfortunately, we do not have a confirmed timeline for construction.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.11 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association - Post Cyclone Alfred**

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**8.11 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association - Post Cyclone Alfred**

On behalf of West Ballina Residents Association, Les Hume raised the following matters post cyclone Alfred:

- (a) Many of the stormwater drains had not been cleaned or pumped out.

Staff Comment:

Our drains are inspected on a regular basis. The size of the piped network means it is possible debris will be collected in the pipes between inspections. In preparation for severe weather events, our work teams inspect key locations and respond to observed or reported issues. Our open drains are also regularly inspected. The cleaning of built up silt is being managed on a rolling program. The cost of this work means it is not possible (or necessary) to attend to each drain more regularly than every two years.

- (b) The information provided about sea surge was not made clear enough for those on the river or canals (higher than 2022).

Staff Comment:

The NSW SES is responsible for providing advice to the community in respect of expected river flood heights. To inform their decision making and communications, we provided the SES with flood modelling which we updated daily. Our modelling predictions for each high tide event achieved a high level of reliability. We are working with the Reconstruction Authority and the SES to develop new resources to build community awareness and understanding of our flood risks. We have also allocated funds in our next budget for a community education campaign to further build resilience and understanding of local flood impacts.

- (c) Council sand bagging and pick up worked a lot better than 2022. Credit to the staff who endured the weather.

Staff Comment:

Thank you for your feedback. Sandbagging is an SES activity; however we do provide significant support to this operation.

- (d) Information on relief services very fragmented.

Staff Comment:

The Reconstruction Authority is responsible for these services. We publish information from RA on our communication channels. We also assisted RA establish the Recovery Centre which operated from the Ballina Surf Club. During the Recovery Centre's opening period, more than 60 people attended each day and were provided assistance.

**8.11 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association - Post Cyclone Alfred**

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- (e) Fish kill and water pollution in Richmond River, a disgrace. (Fish travelled up the stormwater pipes and blocked them)

Staff Comment:

This is a significant issue. Council continues to advocate and lobby for changes to the management of the River and for Government investment towards the various strategies that have identified solutions to restore the river's environmental health.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.12 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association - Stormwater Infrastructure, West Ballina**

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**8.12 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association – Stormwater Infrastructure, West Ballina**

On behalf of West Ballina Residents Association, Les Hume raised the following:

- (a) Stormwater infrastructure is an ongoing issue that has to be addressed as large areas in West Ballina had water discharging out onto roads during Cyclone Alfred (would have been worse if the rain falls stated had of eventuated).

Staff Comment:

We confirm previous advice to Mr Hume that traditionally the focus for our expenditure of the funds available for stormwater assets has been the renewal of aging assets. This priority is to ensure our existing assets remain in service. We have also completed the Ballina and West Ballina Overland Flow Study. This work has identified opportunities for us to improve the capacity and function of our stormwater assets in this location. The reporting allows us to rank our priorities, however additional funding is required to implement any works. We have used this reporting to support grant applications. We are also completing Overland Flood Studies for Wardell, Alstonville and Lennox Head as these areas face similar challenges. This means the actual amount of infrastructure spend that is required is very significant and beyond the resources of Council.

- (b) During cyclone Alfred outlets into the river appeared to not be working due to blockage, fish carcass found in sullage traps a long way up the streets.

Staff Comment:

The flat terrain for Ballina Island and West Ballina limits the hydraulic capacity of the stormwater system. This means in high tides water can be blocked or slowed from entering the river. Our assets can also become blocked from debris. Our inspections pick up these blockages to the extent that is possible across a large network. Our work teams are on standby to respond to any observed or reported blockages. We also inspect key target locations as part of our preparation for expected severe weather events. While blockages and the high tides can create a level of impact, including some nuisance flooding in road reserves for a time, historically it is clear overland flow paths and the topography mean we do not experience property damage or significant risks to public safety.

- (c) It has been noted in Ballina Council correspondence of the inadequacy of the stormwater piping system. This needs to be prioritised to upgrade, as it will continue to flood during heavy rain.

Staff Comment:

Refer to the responses above.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

**8.13 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association - Development Approvals on Wetland and Floodplain Areas, West Ballina**

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**8.13 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association – Development Approvals on Wetland and Floodplain Areas, West Ballina**

On behalf of West Ballina Residents Association, Les Hume raised the need to cease Development approvals on Wetland and Floodplain areas of West Ballina. Building up on soils above the 2022 water level is not going to help the flooding on lower lying areas of the Wetlands and Floodplains. What water mitigation that was here is now filled or being built on. i.e Emmanuel College sports field.

**Staff Comment:**

Stormwater and Richmond River flooding are typically two different matters.

In the case of West Ballina proposed development is assessed in relation to these matters in accordance with planning provisions set out in councils Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP).

Councils long term strategic planning limits new greenfield development on the floodplain based on detailed flood analysis. Infill within the urban footprint is also informed by extensive flood study information and assessment.

Council is currently reviewing flood planning provisions.

**Attachment(s)**

Nil

## **8.14 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association - Traffic Speeding in West Ballina**

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### **8.14 Business With Notice - West Ballina Residents Association – Traffic Speeding in West Ballina**

On behalf of West Ballina Residents Association, Les Hume raised the ongoing increase in traffic movements, there are regular incidents of accidents happening on a regular basis. Areas of concern are listed below.

- a) The speed that these vehicles are travelling at, even though stated as either 60 kilometres or 50 kilometres, many are WELL over the limit.
- b) There needs to be better policing of this or even fixed speed cameras as there will be serious accidents ending in the death of a pedestrian or motorist.
- c) Highlighted incidents are occurring on Rivers Street, Burns Point Ferry Road, Kalinga Street and Horizon Drive. Many of these incidents have been reported to Council and Police.

#### Staff Comment:

There is no speed data for Burns Point Ferry Road (posted speed limit 60km/h).

The posted speed on River Street is 60km/h and the default/posted speed on Horizon and Kalinga is 50km/h.

To determine if speeding is an issue on a road we look at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of vehicles.

The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds were recorded on the following roads in 2024:

- Horizon Drive – 35.64km/h
- Kalinga Street – 51.66km/h
- River Street West of Barlows – 59.40km/h and 59.22km/h
- River Street West of Boatharbour Rd – 63km/h and 61.74km/h
- River Street West of Burns Pt Ferry Road – 64.98km/h.

There is no indication of significant speeding on Horizon Drive and Kalinga Street. Vehicle speeds increase further west on River St (travelling near the highway interchange).

Police routinely operate a speed camera at two locations on River Street, West Ballina: near West Ballina shopping centre and west of Burns Point Ferry Road.

Compliance with posted speeds is a police matter. Local councils do not have the authority to enforce speed limits.

Requests for Enforcement Cameras can be lodged with the NSW Government's Centre for Road Safety using the following link:

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/topics-tips/speeding/have-your-say/enforcement-cameras-have-your-say>

#### **Attachment(s)**

Nil

## 8.15 Business With Notice - Ballina Croquet Incorporated - Urgent Request for Support

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### 8.15 Business With Notice - Ballina Croquet Incorporated - Urgent Request for Support

Carolyn Reay-Young submitted the letter below requesting urgent support for Ballina Croquet.

Ballina Croquet Inc  
30.04.25



**Attention: Ward A Committee,**  
Janelle Snellgrove  
[Janelle.Snellgrove@ballina.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Janelle.Snellgrove@ballina.nsw.gov.au)

BALLINA CROQUET IS REQUESTING URGENT SUPPORT FROM OUR WARD A COMMITTEE, OUR BALLINA SHIRE STAFF, COUNCILLORS AND COMMUNITY.

Ballina Croquet wants to stay in Ward A. We have been in Ward A since 1936. Our 75 members want to play croquet in Ward A. Our demographic is in Ward A. For the last 6 years Ballina Croquet has been advocating, negotiating & liaising with Ballina Council, Crown lands, including Reflections, & MPs to get a parcel of land so that the future of the club is secure.

After 89 years of autonomous & independent existence, Ballina Croquet's security on Crown Land, Hampton Park Reserve on Ballina Island was lost when Ballina Council allocated the licence for the land that croquet was on to Ballina Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd.

Croquet is a unique Tier 1 sport as most players are older women. They have experienced discrimination, invisibility, marginalisation & dismissal of their needs & rights.

From 1985 to 2025 all recommendations for location and sites by Ballina Shire Council Staff and Councillors have been followed with detailed submissions including a business case.

Submissions for sites include Hampton Park (1936, 2004/5, 2010, 2018, 2024/5) Kingsford Smith Park, Boomerang Park, Cawarra Park, Kentwell Park, the Old Depot Site and Ferngrove Park. Ballina Croquet was prioritised in both the Ballina Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan (SRFP) and Ballina Cost Benefit Analysis – expansion of croquet in the Ballina Shire.

We do not know of any other sporting body that has had to jump as many hoops as we have & still not get anywhere even when we have done everything requested of us. It just seems so unfair so could Ward A please support us in our endeavour to get a clubhouse and two lawns on Ballina Island which incidentally will be paid for by our club.

**Ballina Croquet President**

Carolyn Reay-Young  
M 0403 337 701  
Email: [ballinacroquet@gmail.com](mailto:ballinacroquet@gmail.com)  
PO Box 7055  
East Ballina NSW 2478

### Attachment(s)

Nil



9. Business Without Notice

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**9. Business Without Notice**

Nil Items

## **10.1 Council Documents on Exhibition**

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### **10. Council Documents on Exhibition**

#### **10.1 Council Documents on Exhibition**

##### **Documents on Exhibition**

Documents on public exhibition and Council Notices can be found on our website at the following link:

[Your Say Ballina](#)

##### **Attachment(s)**

Nil

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

**11. Next Meeting / Future Meeting Dates**

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 8 July 2025 at 4pm.

**12. Meeting Closure**