

**MINUTES OF THE C WARD COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE CRAWFORD HOUSE
10 WARDELL ROAD, ALSTONVILLE,
ON 10/07/25 AT 5PM**

1. Acknowledgment of Country

In opening the meeting, the Chair provided an Acknowledgement of Country.

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

Members

Cr Simon Chate
Cr Simon Kinny
Cr Therese Crollick
Cr Sharon Cadwallader (Mayor)

Eoin Johnston – Rous Mill Ratepayers Association
Jane Gardiner - Alstonville Plateau Historical Society and Heritage Advisory Ballina
Jeff Cush – Wardell and District Progress Association
Malcolm Johnson – Ballina Environment Society and Tuckombil Landcare
Natalie Young – Alstonville Community Preschool
Russell Priddle – Alstonville Football Club
Scott Noble – Pearces Creek Hall
Wayne Garrard - Alstonville and District Cricket Association

Council Staff

John Truman - Director Civil Services Division
Joanne Cordery - Executive Support Officer – Civil Services

Observers

Apologies

Simon Winfield – Pearces Creek Hall
Zac Convery – Alstonville Agricultural Society Inc

3. Declarations of Interest

Nil

4. Presentations

Nil

5. Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee confirms the Minutes of the C Ward Committee Meeting held on Thursday 8 May 2025.

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6. Business Arising from Minutes

6.1 Business Arising from Minutes of 8 May 2025 - Ballina Environment Society - Debris on Shelly Beach

The information contained in the agenda was noted. Malcolm Johnson suggested Council consider the purchase of a Bobot Robotic Beach Cleaner.

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes of 8 May 2025 - Wollongbar Community Action Network - Sneaths Road - Request for Signage

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

6.3 Business Arising from Minutes of 8 May 2025 - Rous Mill Ratepayers Association - Old Lismore Road Wollongbar - Path

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

6.4 Business Arising from Minutes of 8 May 2025 - Cr Chate - Damaged Signage

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

6.5 Business Arising from Minutes of 8 May 2025 - Rous Mill Ratepayers Association - Signage Dalwood Road

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

6.6 Business Arising from Minutes of 8 May 2025 - Alstonville Football Club - Geoff Watt Oval - Funnel Ants

The information contained in the agenda was noted.

7. General Business

Nil Items

8. Business With Notice

8.1 Business With Notice - Alstonville Community Preschool - Car Park at Crawford Park / Alstonville Preschool

There are several significant trees that have overgrown and are flowing over onto the road. The pathway down into the car park is being blocked by large bushes protruding onto the footpath. Additionally, there is a big divot in the middle of the driveway leading into the car park. Parents and staff from the preschool have expressed their concerns regarding the impact on cars and the

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general safety of everyone using this car park. I believe it is important to discuss these issues for the safety and well-being of everyone involved.

Staff Comment

Customer Requests have been logged for staff to undertake an inspection of the vegetation 152/035/25 and for staff to inspect the road surface condition 152036/25.

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The information contained in the agenda was noted.

8.2 Business With Notice - Alstonville Community Preschool - Campbell Park Wollongbar - Playground Upgrade

There is plans for playground upgrade at Campbell Park, Wollongbar, I have some concerns. According to the latest Community Connect magazine, 5 out of the 6 park upgrades are allocated to Ballina and Lennox. Its great to see Wollongbar on the list, however Campbell Park, which is located in a cul-de-sac, might not be the best use of time and resources. The Wollongbar district park is most used for the families in the area, which would benefit more from additional equipment to unsure its sufficient for the number of children using this park. Improved safety measures would ensure children are safe from the busy roads that the park is located on. Could the council investigate this matter further?

Staff Comment

Overall, Council's Playground Upgrade and Management Plan aims to ensure playgrounds are available throughout the Shire's urban areas on a catchment basis.

Playgrounds in the Shire are replaced having regard for their age and condition on a cyclical basis. This is informed by regular inspections and safety and condition assessments. The program is not locality based.

For the 2025/26 year with respect to Alstonville and Wollongbar, Campbell Park (\$155,000) and Elizabeth Anne Brown Park (\$300,000) are identified for replacement based on Council's adopted management plan. Apex Park is identified for replacement in 2026/27 (\$130,000).

The Wollongbar District Park has been constructed in accordance with an adopted master plan that followed extensive community engagement. There are no current plans to expand the playground equipment or facilities available at this park.

The district park has recently been inspected in response to a request to review the park fencing. The fencing was found to be in good condition and no additional fencing is proposed (noting Council generally does not fully fence playground areas under its adopted management plan).

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The information contained in the agenda was noted.

**8.3 Business With Notice - Alstonville Community Preschool - Wollongbar
Community Preschool Car Park**

Many trees are overhanging the footpath leading up to the preschool, which needs to be addressed along with the weeding maintenance of the car park. There is limited room for staff parking, forcing them to park on the grass near the hall, which has recently become very muddy. Could council consider covering the grass to create more parking space for staff and ensure safety for staff and families.

Staff Comment

Customer requests have been logged for staff to undertake an inspection of the footpath 152038/25 and vegetation 152037/25.

In relation to the car park, there is presently no funding allocation for any increase in the hardstand area for car parking in the vicinity of the hall and preschool.

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The information contained in the agenda was noted.

Natalie Young asked if the grassed area could be turned into car parks.

John Truman advised that Council is currently undertaking a carpark upgrade strategy. This location is a potential candidate for inclusion in the program.

**8.4 Business With Notice - Rous Mill Ratepayers Association - Hermans
Lane Pimlico**

Last year Council recognised the poor state of Hermans Lane at Pimlico. While some repairs were done, unfortunately the road has significantly deteriorated again, with potholes and rough sections. See attached two photos. It's worth noting that both photos were taken shortly after work on the lane (photographed on 6 June). See a couple of small patches of new bitumen in photo Hermans Lane 1. No attempt was made to repair the pothole in photo Hermans Lane 2. It is quite apparent that the work was manifestly inadequate.

Council's Road Renewal Program 2024/2025 ([Road Renewal Program 2024/2025 | Ballina Shire Council](#)) indicates the following work: **Hermans Lane Segment 30 (Stabilisation)**. The Creightons would like to know:

- Where does 'Segment 30' begin and end on Hermans Lane?
- What does 'stabilisation' mean with respect to road works?

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Staff Comment

The road works includes stabilisation of approximately 1.5 km of Hermans Lane, with a carriageway width of 4.5 m. The extent of the project is from Perry's Lane to Riverbank Road.

Foamed bitumen stabilisation is a pavement recycling technique used to improve the strength and durability of existing road materials by binding them with foamed bitumen. This method involves injecting a small amount of water into hot bitumen, causing it to expand and create a foam that can be mixed with the existing pavement material. The resulting mix creates a flexible, strong, and water-resistant pavement layer. Stabilisation is a more cost-effective solution compared to traditional pavement reconstruction methods meaning we can achieve greater project scope.

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The information contained in the agenda was noted.

8.5 Business With Notice - Rous Mill Ratepayers Association - Crawfords Lane Rous Mill

Crawfords Lane has recently been re-sealed with a clay and pebble aggregate. Unfortunately a 200 metre section south of the intersection of Rous Mill Road is in a less desirable state now than before the re-sealing. Ruts and ridges have appeared in this section. The ruts have filled with loose pebbles and the surface is now dangerous for cyclists. Dust from traffic is more pronounced than previously and has been the subject of a complaint to Council from residents at 1 Crawfords Lane. See attached photos Crawfords Lane 1 and Crawfords Lane 2.

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Staff Comment

Maintenance teams have inspected the site and have scheduled an additional grade to rectify the areas of concern from Monday 7 July . The unsealed roads team utilise recycled pavement materials when re-sheeting. These recycled materials are not always consistent and this at times can require rework.

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The information contained in the agenda was noted.

9. Business Without Notice

9.1 Trees Overhanging Lismore Road

Cr Crollick advised that trees were overhanging Lismore Road particularly near the Rifle Range Road intersection, causing issues for trucks and buses.

Action: Customer request to be created.

Post Meeting Note

Customer Request created 152320/25.

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9.2 Fig Tree - Paddy Bugden Memorial

Cr Crollick reported that she had received requests from the Alstonville Rotary and the Alstonville Sub-Branch to request that the very large fig tree located near the Paddy Bugden memorial be removed. The tree roots are impacting the memorial and the memorial is being damaged. It was suggested that if the tree was removed, less invasive trees could be planted in the area. Cr Crollick also advised that the groups had not received a response from Council regarding this request.

Action: Council staff to inspect the reported damage and assess the Fig Tree.

9.3 Tidy Towns Signage

Jane Gardiner asked for an update on when the Tidy Towns Award Signage would be reinstate. She suggested that a good location would be in Central Park next to the Trident Café.

Action: Request an update for the installation of the signs.

9.4 Bulwinkle Park - Toilet Replacement

Malcolm Johnson asked when the toilets at Bulwinkle Park would be replaced. He commented that funding of \$88,000 had been allocated in 2024 but was not in the 2025 list.

Action: Request an update for the replacement of the toilets at Bulwinkle Park.

9.5 Update from Tuckombil Landcare

Malcolm Johnson advised that they are assisting to develop a skills program for Primary Schools to expand the riparian area (Crown land) near the Boral Quarry.

9.6 Operation Recovery Richmond River

Malcolm Johnson advised they had met with Janelle Saffin MP and she had advised them not to submit a petition and they should prepare a business case to support funding applications.

9.7 Geoff Watt Oval - Skate Park

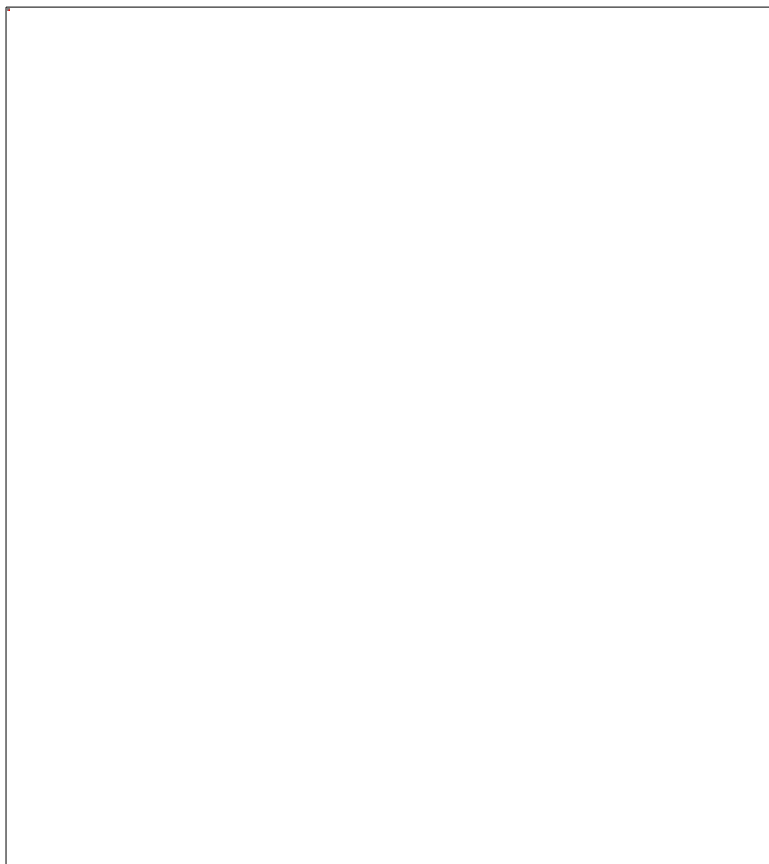
Russell Priddle enquired if Geoff Watt Oval was a location being considered for a Skatepark.

Council is investigating possible site options. A report was prepared to the April Council meeting

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Post Meeting Note

The Council report included the following images illustrating the site options investigated and how a facility may be included on Geoff Watt Oval.



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9.8 Annual Carnival - Geoff Watt Oval

Russell Priddle advised the Committee that the annual football carnival will be held on Sunday 3 August and they were expecting a large number of teams to participate.

9.9 Patches Beach - Boundary Creek Barrier

Eoin Johnson advised that the Boundary Creek barrier had been removed and vehicles were now accessing the beach and coming into the beaches located in Ballina Shire.

Jeff Cush also advised that professional fisherman had been seen removing huge quantities of pipis from the beaches in Ballina and this had been reported to the Fisheries Department with no success.

John Truman suggested that Council can report this matter to NSW Fisheries regional manager.

Action: Council request NSW Fisheries to conduct an enforcement campaign at South Ballina Beach to ensure commercial fishing is complying with licencing and other controls that protect pipis.

9.10 David Attenborough Film

Malcolm Johnson congratulated Council on the recent showing of the David Attenborough film and advised it was a great night that was well attended.

10. Council Documents on Exhibition

10.1 Council Documents on Exhibition

The list of Council documents available for public comment was noted.

11. Next Meeting/Future meeting Dates

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday 11 September 2025 at 5pm.

MEETING CLOSURE

6.30pm