



# 2016

COUNCIL BUSINESS PAPERS

Ordinary Meeting WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE 2016





PO BOX 156  
MUDGEES NSW 2850

86 Market Street MUDGEES  
109 Herbert Street GULGONG  
77 Louee Street RYLSTONE

Ph: 1300 765 002 or (02) 6378 2850  
Fax: (02) 6378 2815  
Email: [council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

25 May 2016

Dear Councillor

MEETING NOTICE  
**Ordinary Meeting**

1 JUNE 2016

Open Day at 5.30pm

*Council Meeting commencing at conclusion of Open day*

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Notice is hereby given that the above meeting of Mid-Western Regional Council will be held in the Council Chambers, 86 Market Street, Mudgee at the time and date indicated above to deal with the business as listed on the Meeting Agenda.

Members of the public may address the Committee Meeting at Open Day. Speakers are given five minutes to outline any issue of relevance to the Council. If you wish to speak at Open Day please contact the Mayor's Office on 1300 765 002 or 02 6378 2850 by 3.00 pm on the day of the meeting. Alternatively, please make yourself known to the General Manager prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "BRAD CAM", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER



## AGENDA

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Nil

Item 1: Apologies

Item 2: Disclosure of Interest

In accordance with Section 451 of the Local Government Act 1993, Councillors should declare an interest in any item on this Agenda. If an interest is declared, Councillors should leave the Chambers prior to the commencement of discussion of the item.

Item 3: Confirmation of Minutes

**3.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 18 May 2016**

Council Decision:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 May 2016 be taken as read and confirmed.

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The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting are separately attached.

## Item 4: Matters in Progress

| SUBJECT                                 | RESOLUTION NO. & DATE                   | RESOLUTION  | ACTION  |
|---|---|---|---|
| Quarry Road – Kandos                    | Res. 64/12<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>15/2/2012 | That consideration of this matter be deferred until discussions with Cement Australia have been completed.  | <b>No determination as yet.</b>   |
| Saleyards Subdivision                   | Res 228/14<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>4/6/14    | That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Council advertise state-wide a tender to sell the former Saleyards site, known as Lot 2 DP534336, Lot 399 DP132580, and Lot 532 DP1132581 which has recently been approved for a 48 lot residential subdivision;</li> <li>3. all tenders be forwarded to Council for determination as to whether or not Council will sell the site;</li> <li>4. the tender process to last 60 days, and the tender notice clearly indicate that Council may not necessarily accept all or any tenders;</li> <li>5. Council demolish the old SES building prior to the public tender of this subdivision and remove all demolished waste from site.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Council has completed the demolition of the old SES building, and the survey of the subdivision is also complete.</b></p> <p><b>Further discussion with Council to decide the best timing to call for a tender of this subdivision.</b></p>   |
| Rural Fire Service Precinct Development | 565/14<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>17/12/14      | 3. That the General Manager be authorised to continue negotiations with the Rural Fire Service in order to subdivide the necessary 7100sm of land and negotiate an agreement for the timing, design and funding of the Rural Fire Service headquarters and museum at Mudgee.  | <p><b>The General Manager has had a preliminary meeting with the RFS. They have confirmed they are happy with the 7,100 sm of land, and the timing of construction is 2 years away.</b></p> <p><b>A report on the Rural Fire Service precinct development is included in this business paper.</b></p> |
|   | 25/16<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>17/2/16        | That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. reject the proposed NSW Rural Fire Service Precinct</li> </ol>  |   |



| SUBJECT  | RESOLUTION NO. & DATE              | RESOLUTION   | ACTION  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|---|
|  |                                    | <p>Development proposal due to the high financial burden placed on Council;</p> <p>3. support the development of the NSW Rural Fire Service Heritage Museum;</p> <p>4. authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations with NSW Rural Fire Service to develop a proposal for a NSW Rural Fire Service solution that substantially reduces the financial burden on Council.</p> <p>5. receive any new proposals for a NSW Rural Fire precinct, or Fire Control Centre, for in-principle support.</p> |   |
| Tender for cleaning services for Council buildings in the Mudgee/ Gulgong region   | 572/14<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>17/12/14 | 2. That Council not accept any tenders and delegate authority to the General Manager to negotiate with the tenderers as necessary.   | <p><b>Council staff are undertaking a comparison of in-house versus external service provision.</b></p> <p><b>Tenders will be advertised on 18 April with the intention of a Report to Council in June.</b></p> |
| Council Contributions  | 44/15<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>18/2/15   | That a discussion paper be prepared in relation to Council contributions and presented to Councillors at the April workshop, so that Councillors can consider how to best assist applicants who demonstrate an economic and social need.   | <p><b>Council will be presented with options next financial year, after the Fit for the Future submission has been completed.</b></p> <p><b>Recommended completion.</b></p>                                     |
| Negotiation with Mudgee Golf Club regarding road realignment and Fairways Estate acoustic barrier/buggy corridor maintenance | 447/15<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>16/12/15 | <p>That:</p> <p>1. The General Manager be authorised to be negotiate with the Mudgee Golf Club regarding land acquisition for a road realignment and footpath construction; and</p> <p>2. The General Manager be authorised to negotiate the</p>   | <p><b>Continued discussions with the General Manager of Mudgee Golf Club.</b></p>   |

| SUBJECT   | RESOLUTION NO. & DATE             | RESOLUTION  | ACTION   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
|   |                                   | agreement for the ongoing maintenance of the buggy corridors within the Fairways Estate.      |  |
| Cudgegong River – Lawson Park                         | 70/16<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>20/4/16  | That Council dredge Cudgegong River at Lawson Park from the weir back.                        | <b>That Council apply for a Part 7 Fisheries Management Act permit with supporting documentation for the application, for the purpose of clearing the Cudgegong River at Lawson Park from the weir back.</b> |
| Establishment of a Lawn Cemetery at Rylstone Cemetery | 110/16<br>Ordinary Mtg<br>18/5/16 | That Council staff prepare a cost estimate to establish a lawn cemetery at Rylstone Cemetery. | <b>Staff will prepare a report to Council in August.</b>   |

## Item 5: Mayoral Minute

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Nil

Item 6: Notices of Motion or Rescission

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Nil

## Item 7: Office of the General Manager

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Nil

Item 8: Development

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Nil

## Item 9: Finance

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### 9.1 Submissions to the Draft 2016/17 Operational Plan and 2014-2017 Amended Delivery Program

REPORT BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
TO 01 JUNE 2016 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400054, FIN300065

#### RECOMMENDATION

##### That Council:

1. receive the report by the Chief Financial Officer on the Submissions to the Draft 2016/17 Operational Plan and 2013-2017 Delivery Program;
  2. receive all public submissions to the draft 2016/17 Operational Plan as listed below, with the General Manager required to respond to each submission as follows:
    - 2.1 Paul & Roslyn Barton – be thanked for their submission and be advised that Council will continue the fire hydrant maintenance program;
    - 2.2 Levona Sandon – be thanked for her submission, and be advised that Council will improve facilities at the existing Mudgee dog park;
    - 2.3 Judy Hitchcock – be thanked for her submission, and be advised that Council will improve facilities at the existing Mudgee dog park;
    - 2.4 Carolyn & Bill Beamish - be thanked for their submission, and be advised that Council will improve facilities at the existing Mudgee dog park;
    - 2.5 Levona Sandon – be thanked for her second submission, and be advised that continuation of the footpath on Denison St is included in the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan and will be constructed in line with the PAMP recommendation;
    - 2.6 Barry Stutsel – be thanked for his submission, and his request for an updated median strip be declined;
    - 2.7 Barry Stutsel – be thanked for his submission, and his request for a man-made lake at Lawson Park be declined;
    - 2.8 Clare Bruton – be thanked for her submission, advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that a works request has been raised in regards to her request for the road to be graded;
    - 2.9 Rylstone Kandos Business & Tourism – be thanked for their submission, and be advised that Council will perform a strategic review of the best
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location for a Tourist Information Bay in Rylstone in conjunction with local tourism bodies;

- 2.10 Mark & Katrina Doulton – be thanked for their submission, and be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed;
  - 2.11 Baldrige Cattle – be thanked for their submission, and advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed;
  - 2.12 Hugh Bateman – be thanked for his submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that his request to have Kaludabah Road sealed be declined;
  - 2.13 Greg Spinks – be thanked for his submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that his request to have Kaludabah Road sealed be declined;
  - 2.14 Ian & Tracey Watt – be thanked for their submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that their request to have Kaludabah Road sealed be declined;
  - 2.15 Geoffrey Spice – be thanked for his submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that his request to have Kaludabah Road sealed be declined;
  - 2.16 Paul Axiak – be thanked for his submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that his request to have Kaludabah Road sealed be declined;
  - 2.17 Frances Laidler & 22 others – be thanked for their submissions, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that their request to have Maiala Road sealed be declined;
  - 2.18 Chris Pearson – be thanked for his submission, and advised that Council will endeavour to include additional “Swaggy Trail” markers with future footpath upgrades in the Gulgong CBD;
  - 2.19 Ilford Public School P&C – be thanked for their submission, advised that Council will continue to support their music program through annual applications to the Community Grants Program, and decline their request to pay for the replacement of the existing music room facilities;
  - 2.20 Mudgee High School – be thanked for their submission, and decline their request to purchase a laser cutter for the school;
  - 2.21 Rylstone Kandos Preschool – be thanked for their submission, and decline their request to contribute to the extension of the preschool facilities;
  - 2.22 Country Physiotherapy – be thanked for their submission, and advised that \$7,000 will be allocated towards the blister gardens at Church and Inglis St;
  - 2.23 Ray Williamson Plumbing Services Pty Ltd – be thanked for their submission, and advised that \$7,000 will be allocated towards the blister gardens at Church and Inglis St;
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- 2.24 Benevolent Society – be thanked for their submission, and advised that \$7,000 will be allocated towards the blister gardens at Church and Inglis St;**
  - 2.25 Gulgong District Tennis Association – be thanked for their submission, and advised that required upgrade works will need to be prioritised within the existing, partially grant funded budget allocation of \$70,000 in 2016/17;**
  - 2.26 Bob Clarke with petition – be thanked for his submission, and his request for extended operating hours at the pools be declined;**
  - 2.27 Melissa Rivett – be thanked for her submission, and her request to have an additional 1.8km of Bishops View Road added to the maintained roads list be declined;**
  - 2.28 Bunnamagoo Estate Wines – be thanked for their submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that their request to have Tinja Lane sealed be declined;**
  - 2.29 Lowe Wines - be thanked for their submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that their request to have Tinja Lane sealed be declined;**
  - 2.30 John Reynolds - be thanked for his submission, be advised that the sealing program is still on hold for new roads to be sealed and that his request to have Tinja Lane sealed be declined;**
  - 2.31 Veronica & Terrence Miller – be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.32 Cheree Warnock - be thanked for her submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.33 Mudgee High School - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.34 Ilford Public School - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.35 Catholic Education Office – Diocese of Bathurst - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.36 Western School Sports Association (WRAS) - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.37 Cudgegong Valley Public School - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.38 St Matthews Catholic School - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
  - 2.39 Mudgee Public School - be thanked for their submission, and referred to the below amendments to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges;**
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- 2.40 Cultural Development Committee – be thanked for their submission, and advised that funding is provided for the continuation of consultation and investigation into the provision of a regional gallery facility;
  - 2.41 Mitchell & Daryl Clapham – be thanked for their submission, and decline their request for a rate reduction for farming;
  - 2.42 Athlone (Crudine) Pty Ltd – be thanked for their submission, and decline their request for a rate reduction for farming;
  - 2.43 Glencore – Ulan Coal - be thanked for their submission, and advise that the current recommended rate model includes an equal distribution of the 1.8% rate increase;
  - 2.44 Joyce Purtle - be thanked for their submission, and decline their request for a rate reduction for farming;
  - 2.45 NSW Farmers Association - be thanked for their submission, and decline their request for a rate reduction for farming;
  - 2.46 Maxwell Price - be thanked for their submission, and decline their request for a rate reduction for farming;
  - 2.47 Neville Mattick - be thanked for their submission, and decline their request for a rate reduction for farming;
3. make the following changes to the 2016/17 – 2019/20 budget as exhibited, and detailed in the report below:
- 3.1 Public Submissions
    - 3.1.1 \$20,000 towards street fire hydrant maintenance in 2016/17, funded from Water Fund cash;
    - 3.1.2 \$55,000 towards Mudgee dog off leash area improvements in 2016/17, funded from S94;
    - 3.1.3 \$7,000 towards upgrade of the blister gardens at the corner of Church and Inglis St in 2016/17, with an additional \$500 per annum thereafter to be allocated to maintenance of these gardens, funded from unrestricted cash;
  - 3.2 Management Submissions
    - 3.2.1 \$100,000 towards solar panels at the Mudgee Sewer Treatment Plant in 2016/17, funded from Sewer Fund Reserve;
    - 3.2.2 \$69,000 towards the sediment dam at Mudgee Waste Depot in 2016/17, funded from Waste Fund Reserve;
    - 3.2.3 \$52,908 increase to rating revenue from supplementary valuations;
  - 3.3 March 2016 Quarterly Budget rolled budgets – amendments to 2016/17 budget (funding splits provided in body of the report)
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- 3.3.1 \$30,000 for investigation of a regional art gallery;
- 3.3.2 \$15,000 for Asset Management System upgrades;
- 3.3.3 \$19,000 for GPS of cemetery sites;
- 3.3.4 \$30,000 for Glen Willow cricket nets;
- 3.3.5 \$32,000 for Avisford reserve capital works;
- 3.3.6 \$1,212,400 for Ulan Road capital upgrades;
- 3.3.7 \$436,600 for Cope Road capital upgrades;
- 3.3.8 \$113,600 reduction to Fibre Optic link installation;
- 3.3.9 \$150,000 for disabled access at Gulgong Pool;
- 3.3.10 \$1,600,000 for Water Augmentation works at the Ulan Road extension;
- 3.3.11 \$70,300 reduction for contribution to Water Treatment Plant fibre optic link;
- 3.3.12 \$515,000 for Sewer Augmentation at Rylstone Kandos

**4. make the following changes to the 2016/17 Fees and Charges as exhibited:**

- 4.1 Cemeteries, Land – all lawn and monumental sections – Purchase of Land (page 7) – add the words “No charge for infants under 6 months”;
  - 4.2 Cemeteries, Internment Permits – all lawn and monumental sections (page 7) – clarified the wording around infants under 6 months; changed child “...up to 17 years”, from “...up to 18 years”; changed adult to “over 17 years” from “over 18 years”
  - 4.3 Cemeteries, Headstone – monumental section only (page 7) – added the word “Permits”;
  - 4.4 MWRC Parks and Gardens – event bookings for Parks and Gardens (page 13), delete the words “Including schools”;
  - 4.5 Glen Willow Sports Complex (page 14) – add the words “Fields 3,4,5,6 are free of charge for schools”;
  - 4.6 All other MWRC sports complexes (page 14) – add the words “School use is free of charge”;
  - 4.7 Swimming Pools, school swimming carnivals (page 21) – deleted fee \$158, add the words “No charge for annual school swimming carnivals and school carnival participants, however normal admission fees apply for spectators”;
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5. **place on public exhibition for 28 days, the following new Fees and Charges. If no submissions are received following public exhibition Council adopt the Fees and Charges below and include them in the Fees and Charges Schedule:**
    - 5.1 **Administration Services - General administration charge for all other administration requests (outside the scope of normal business) - \$30 per hour**
  6. **authorise the General Manager to start negotiations with Rylstone Kandos Preschool with the aim of selling/transferring the Preschool building to Rylstone Kandos Preschool to allow the school to better leverage the facility for future development.**
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## Executive summary

Council has been through an extensive planning process over the past few months to determine which projects and initiatives would be undertaken across the next four financial years, culminating in the Draft Operational Plan 2016/17 and the amended Delivery Program 2014-2017. Following public exhibition, this report seeks to consider submissions to the Draft Plans and make recommended changes based on those submissions.

## Disclosure of Interest

Nil.

## Detailed report

At its meeting of 20 April 2016, Council endorsed the draft Operational Plan 2016/17 and Delivery Program for 2014 – 2017 to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. The exhibition period closed on Friday 20 May 2016, with a number of submissions received. Each submission made by a member of the public is presented to Council (refer to Attachment 1), and summarised below. In addition to community submissions, management submissions are also discussed below. These range from carry forward of projects deferred at the March 2016 Quarterly Budget Review from the 2015/16 budget to the 2016/17 budget; minor corrections to the draft budget; and recommended changes to the Fees and Charges schedule.

Once these recommendations have been approved, the changes will be incorporated into the 2016/17 Operational Plan and presented to Council at the June 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting for adoption, with the Long Term Financial Plan 2017-2027.

## **PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS**

**2.1 Paul & Roslyn Barton** – have requested that Council identify that street fire hydrants are operable, clearly marked and delineated, mapped (GPS) and maintained on a 3 month roster. Although there is an existing program in place for maintenance of Councils street fire hydrants, it is recommended that an additional \$20,000 be budgeted to ensure this program is properly resourced, funded from unrestricted cash.

**2.2 Levona Sandon** – has requested that additional dog parks be provided in the Mudgee area. Unfortunately, with budgetary constraints, the cost of providing additional dog off leash parks is prohibitive, however it is recommended that funds be allocated towards properly fitting out the

existing dog park adjacent to Glen Willow. \$55,000 is recommended, to be funded from S94 district open space.

**2.3 Judy Hitchcock** – has requested improved facilities at the Mudgee dog off leash park on Pitts Lane. It is recommended that funds be allocated towards properly fitting out the existing dog park by allocating \$55,000, to be funded from S94 district open space.

**2.4 Carolyn & Bill Beamish** – have requested has requested improved facilities at the Mudgee dog off leash park on Pitts Lane. It is recommended that funds be allocated towards properly fitting out the existing dog park by allocating \$55,000, to be funded from S94 district open space.

**2.5 Levona Sandon** – has requested an extension of the footpath on Denison St between George St and Burrundulla Ave. This section of Denison Street is included in the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan for a footpath, however the prioritisation falls about midway. Prioritisation of other path projects are currently higher, and it is recommended that the footpath be constructed in line with the endorsed PAMP recommendations.

**2.6 Barry Stutsel** – has requested that Council update the median strip at the far western end of Horatio St (west of Cox St). Staff have investigated the island and recommend that it not be included in Councils regular maintenance program. Currently, only median strip and pedestrian islands in busy CBD thoroughfares are maintained by Council. This area is fairly isolated and not open to a lot of traffic. Recent changes to RMS requirements have resulted in the fact that Council can no longer ride slashers or mowers on public roads and need to get them transported to each location. This has meant that, in order to keep costs reasonable, only large medial strips are maintained under a regular Council program.

**2.7 Barry Stutsel** – has requested that Council establish a lake on the Cudgegong River at Lawson Park for a water theme park (boating activities). Unfortunately, this ambitious project has costs that are considered prohibitive, we would also be unlikely to get approval from NSW Department of Primary Industries and Windamere Dam is seen as a suitable alternative in the nearby vicinity. Staff recommend this request be denied.

**2.8 Clare Bruton** – has requested that Yarrabin Road be added to the Roads Program to be graded, resurfaced and sealed. A works request has been raised in regards to her concern over the condition of the unsealed road for grading. It is estimated that sealing Yarrabin Road would cost about \$2.1M. It is not recommended that Yarrabin Road be sealed due to the fact that Council has placed a hold on extending the sealed road network.

**2.9 Rylstone Kandos Business & Tourism** – have asked that a Tourist Information Bay be constructed on the northern approach to Rylstone, adjacent to the Cudgegong River. The cost estimate previously provided for this work was around \$35,000. It is recommended that Council staff work with local tourism groups to complete a strategic investigation into the best location for a tourist information bay within the Rylstone township.

The following submissions have requested that the Kaludabah Road be sealed. It is estimated that the cost of sealing Kaludabah Road would be about \$600,000. It is not recommended that Kaludabah Road be sealed due to the fact that Council has placed a hold on extending the sealed road network.

- 2.10 Mark & Katrina Doulton**
- 2.11 Baldrige Cattle**
- 2.12 Hugh Bateman**
- 2.13 Greg Spinks**
- 2.14 Ian & Tracey Watt**
- 2.15 Geoffrey Spice**
- 2.16 Paul Axiak**

**2.17 Frances Laidler & 22 others** – have requested that Maiala Road be sealed. It is estimated that the cost of sealing Maiala Road would be about \$240,000. It is not recommended that Maiala Road be sealed due to the fact that Council has placed a hold on extending the sealed road network.

**2.18 Chris Pearson** – has requested that “Swaggy Trail” markers be included in Gulgong footpaths. Staff agree that it would be good to continue to improve the heritage appeal of Gulgong CBD and are therefore recommending that these markers be included in future footpath upgrades throughout the Gulgong CBD.

**2.19 Ilford Public School P&C** – have requested that Council support their music program; purchase a shipping container to relocate sports equipment to, and assist in the upgrade of the sports facility to a music room. Staff recommend that Council continues to support the music program through annual applications to the Community Grants Program, but that Ilford Public School apply for State Government funding for the capital works at the school. The school grounds are not Council owned facilities and as such it is staff opinion that this work would be better funded at State level.

**2.20 Mudgee High School** – have requested that Council purchase a laser cutter at a cost of \$35,000. It is recommended Council do not support this request and instead respectfully request that Mudgee High School apply for State Government funding for the purchase of school equipment.

**2.21 Rylstone Kandos Preschool** – has requested \$100,000 to match their \$100,000 towards constructing stage 1 of the preschool facility extension. This is a Council owned facility with a small rental income amount. It is recommended that Council investigate the option of transferring or selling the building to the Rylstone Kandos Preschool facility so that they can leverage the capital to complete capital upgrades themselves, and to secure the future of this facility management. As such a recommendation has been placed to authorise the General Manager to start negotiating with the tenant.

The following submissions have requested an upgrade of the blister gardens at the Inglis and Church St intersection. This gardens are currently not maintained and have become overgrown. Given that this is a central business area of Mudgee it is recommended that \$7,000 be allocated in the 2016/17 Operational Plan for upgrade of these gardens, and that \$500 each year thereafter be provided within the streetscape budget to maintain these gardens.

**2.22 Country Physiotherapy**

**2.23 Ray Williamson Plumbing Services Pty Ltd**

**2.24 Benevolent Society**

**2.25 Gulgong District Tennis Association** – has requested that additional funding be provided to replace the seating at the Gulgong Tennis Courts. Currently, \$70,000 has been included in the 2016/17 Operational Plan (including \$30,000 of grant funding). It is recommended that capital upgrade works required at the Tennis Courts be prioritised within the allocated funding.

**2.26 Bob Clarke with petition** – has requested that the Mudgee, Gulgong and Kandos swimming pools be open for an additional 3 weeks a year. This submission includes a petition signed by community members that use the pools. It is noted by staff that MWRC pool opening hours are quite long compared to other districts and that the additional cost to extend the opening hours is estimated at about \$43,000 per annum. It is therefore recommended by staff that this request be declined.

**2.27 Melissa Rivett** – has requested that the unmaintained section of Bishops View Rd be added to the maintained roads register. Council records show that there are 4 rate payers accessing the unmaintained section, with 2 residences noted. It is therefore not recommended to extend the full length of Bishops View Road to the maintained roads register.

The following submissions have requested that Tinja Lane be sealed. It is estimated that the cost of sealing Tinja Lane would be about \$80,000. It is not recommended that Tinja Lane be sealed due to the fact that Council has placed a hold on extending the sealed road network.

**2.28 Bunnamagoo Estate Wines**

**2.29 Lowe Wines**

**2.30 John Reynolds**

The following submissions have objected to Council charging schools for the use of sports fields, amenities and swimming pools. Some changes to the exhibited fees and charges have been recommended off the back of public submissions received, and these changes have been discussed in detail below in the "Changes to 2016/17 Fees and Charges" section.

**2.31 Veronica & Terrence Miller**

**2.32 Cheree Warnock**

**2.33 Mudgee High School**

**2.34 Ilford Public School**

**2.35 Catholic Education Office**

**2.36 Western School Sports Association (WRAS)**

**2.37 Cudgegong Valley Public School**

**2.38 St Matthews Catholic School**

**2.39 Mudgee Public School**

**2.40 Cultural Development Committee** – have requested that funds be allocated in the 2016/17 Operational Plan for a regional art gallery. It is noted that funds have been allocated in this report to continue the investigation and consultation required for a regional art gallery. No further funds are recommended to be included at this stage.

The following submissions have requested a reduction to farmland rating. Further discussion on rating is covered below under the section "Rates Model", however Council staff feel that the rating model should be selected by the Councillors and at this stage recommend that Council retain the model that was resolved at Councils meeting in April 2016.

**2.41 Mitchell & Daryl Clapham**

**2.42 Athlone (Crudine) Pty Ltd**

**2.44 Joyce Purtle**

**2.45 NSW Farmers Association**

**2.46 Maxwell Price**

**2.47 Neville Mattick**

**2.43 Glencore – Ulan Coal** – has requested that the selected rating model includes an equal distribution of the 1.8% rate increase. Currently, the exhibited revenue policy does include an equal distribution across the rating categories of the IPART capped rate increase of 1.8%.

## **MANAGEMENT SUBMISSIONS**

3.2.1 Solar panels at the Mudgee Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) – in the last year Council has been looking into implementing solar power to reduce operating costs at the Mudgee STP. It is recommended that \$100,000 funded from the Sewer Fund Reserve be included in the 2016/17 Operational Plan so that Council can tender for all 3 solar panel sites at once.

3.2.2 Mudgee Waste Depot Sediment Dam – procurement has started on the construction of a new sediment dam at the depot, with \$80,000 currently included in the 2015/16 Operational Plan for this work. Estimates have been received and an additional \$69,000 is recommended to complete the works in the 2016/17 year, funded from Waste Fund Reserves.

3.2.3 Increase to rating revenue from supplementary valuations, see below commentary \$52,908 increase to unrestricted cash

### MARCH 2016 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW SUBMISSIONS

| Name  | Expenditure | Funding   | Comments  |
|---|-------------|---|---|
| <b>General Fund</b>                                     | <b>\$</b>   |   |   |
| Regional arts gallery                                   | 30,000      | Unrestricted cash   | Continuation of investigation and consultation for appropriate options  |
| Asset Management System upgrades                        | 15,000      | Unrestricted cash   | Defer to allow for continued development of the system  |
| GPS cemetery sites                                      | 19,000      | \$16k from unrestricted cash, \$3k from capital program reserves                | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Glen Willow cricket pitch                               | 30,000      | \$30k contribution to capital works   | Deferral of project to 2016/17  |
| Avisford Reserve capital upgrades                       | 32,000      | \$20k transfer from unspent grants, \$12k transfer from capital program reserve | Continuation of project through into 2016/17, working with community groups to complete works                 |
| Ulan Road capital - Midblock 19.999 to 22.215           | 2,000       | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Ulan Road capital - Mt Pleasant Ln to Buckaroo Ln       | 46,600      | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Ulan Road capital - Church Ln to Overtaking Ln          | 750,000     | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Ulan Road capital - Cope Rd to UCML Mine Entrance       | 3,000       | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Ulan Road capital - Wattlegrove Ln to Midblock 19.999   | 6,800       | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Ulan Road capital - Wyaldra Ln to Quarry Entrance       | 4,000       | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Ulan Road capital - Winchester Cres to Mid-block 31.106 | 400,000     | Grant funding (50.7%) and capital contributions (49.3%)                         | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Cope Road capital - Milestone 2                         | 46,600      | Grant funding   | Continuation of project through into 2016/17  |
| Cope Road capital - Milestone 3                         | (110,000)   | Grant funding   | Continuation of project through into 2016/17 – budget reduced as works completed ahead of schedule in 2015/16 |



| Name   | Expenditure      | Funding  | Comments   |
|--|------------------|--|--|
| Cope Road capital – Milestone 4                              | 230,000          | Grant funding  | Continuation of project through into 2016/17   |
| Cope Road capital - Milestone 5                              | 270,000          | Grant funding  | Continuation of project through into 2016/17   |
| Fibre optic links – Mudgee Library and Water Treatment Plant | (113,600)        | \$70,300 Contribution from Water Fund, \$43.3k from capital program reserves | Moved this project work forward into 2015/16 to obtain a mobilisation discount from the supplier |
| Gulgong disabled access ramp                                 | 150,000          | Capital program reserves   | Continuation of project through into 2016/17   |
| <b>General Fund Total</b>                                    | <b>1,811,400</b> | <b>Unrestricted cash total</b>   | <b>\$61,000</b>  |

| <b>Sewer Fund</b>                    | <b>\$</b>      |                  |  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| Sewer Augmentation Rylstone & Kandos | 515,000        | Reserves - Sewer | Site land matters will not be completed this financial year. |
| <b>Sewer Fund Total</b>              | <b>515,000</b> |                  |  |

| <b>Water Fund</b>                           | <b>\$</b>        |                                     |  |
|---|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Water Augmentation Ulan Road extension      | 1,600,000        | S64 \$1000k Reserves - Water \$600k | Plant designers are reviewing current plant capacity prior to proceeding to concept development. Timing of works is dependent on development progress. |
| Water Fund contribution to Fibre Optic Link | (70,300)         | Unrestricted cash                   | Moved this project work forward into 2015/16 to obtain a mobilisation discount from the supplier   |
| <b>Water Fund Total</b>                     | <b>1,529,700</b> |                                     |  |

## CHANGES TO THE 2016/17 FEES AND CHARGES AS EXHIBITED

Recommended changes to fees and charges after exhibition are included in the below table.

| FN  | FEE/CHARGE - AMENDMENT  | GST | 2015/16 | 2016/17  | CONDITIONS   | PRICE POLICY | EXPLANATION  |   |
|---|---|-----|---------|----------|--|--------------|--|---|
| <b>CEMETERIES</b>                                     |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| Monumental Cemeteries and Rural Cemeteries            |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| Land - All Lawn & Monumental Sections                 |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
|   | Purchase of Land  | Yes | 880.00  | 1,264.00 | Includes maintenance as per Council works program.<br>No charge for infant under 6 months                                | SUB          | Added "No Charge for infant under 6 months"  |   |
| Interment Permits - All Lawn & Monumental Sections    |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
|   | Infant (under 6 months)   | No  | 257.00  | 263.00   |  | SUB          | Changed "Infant instead of Child"  |   |
|   | Child (6 months - 17 years old)   | No  | 477.00  | 533.00   |  | SUB          | Added "(6 months - 17 years old)"  |   |
|   | Adult (over 17 years old)   | No  | 807.00  | 827.00   |  | SUB          | Added "(over 17 years old)"  |   |
| Headstone - Monumental Section Only (Permits)         |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| Added "(Permits)"                                     |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| <b>PARKS - ACTIVE &amp; PASSIVE</b>                   |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| Parks & Gardens                                       |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| MWRC Parks & Gardens                                  |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
|   | Event booking of MWRC Parks & Gardens   | Yes | 150.00  | 154.00   | Excludes annual athletics carnival for schools.  | SUB          | Deleted ", including schools" and added "excludes annual athletics carnival for schools" |   |
| Glen Willow Sports Complex                            |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
|   | <i>All bookings for Glen Willow, including bookings by Schools, are to be made via Council's Community department P/6378 2850<br/>Field 3, 4, 5, 6 are free of charge for schools</i>                               |     |         |          |  |              |  | Added "Field 3, 4, 5, 6 are free of charge for schools" |
| All Other MWRC Sports Complexes excluding Glen Willow |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
|   | <i>All bookings, including bookings made by Schools, for sporting fields other than Glenwillow are to be made through the relevant Sports Council, excluding Rylstone/Kandos.<br/>School use is free of charge.</i> |     |         |          |  |              |  | Added "School use is free of charge."                   |
| <b>SWIMMING POOLS</b>                                 |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
| Mudgee, Gulgong & Kandos Swimming Pools               |   |     |         |          |  |              |  |   |
|   | School Swimming Carnivals   |     |         |          | No charge for annual school swimming carnivals and school carnival participants, however normal admission fees apply for | SUB          | Deleted "\$158" and added "annual school swimming carnivals and"                         |   |

A number of submissions, primarily from schools and parents, have focused on the fees and charges for the use of sporting facilities and swimming pools. The arguments put forward in these submissions are reasonable on the basis of Council wanting to encourage healthy lifestyles and physical activity in the region.

The recommendation from staff is that local schools have free access to sporting facilities and swimming pools for annual athletics carnivals, state sporting knockout competitions, annual swimming carnivals and learn to swim classes. Bookings will still be required for all activities, even if there is no charge and a bond will be available to be charged if required.

It is recommended that a fee still be charged for the use of the main stadium and Field 2 at Glen Willow as well as use of the soccer/touch and netball amenities buildings.

Regular classes on sporting grounds can be undertaken with bookings and negotiation with Council over maintenance schedules but blanket bookings of grounds can't be accommodated.

The use of passive recreation areas (such as Lawson Park) for sporting events or daily school break times is also problematic because the passive areas are not designed for sporting activities or the volume of school students using these areas and damage is being caused to some grassed areas of Lawson Park. Further negotiation with St Matthews Catholic School should be undertaken before these activities are allowed at no cost.

## NEW 2016/17 FEES AND CHARGES TO BE EXHIBITED

The following new fee is recommended to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, and if no submissions are received be automatically adopted. This new fee is a recommendation from

management to encompass all other administration requests (outside of normal business activities), that are not already covered by an existing administration fee.

| FN                    | FEE/CHARGE - NEW                           | GST | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | CONDITIONS | PRICE POLICY | EXPLANATION |
|-----------------------|--|-----|---------|---------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>ADMINISTRATION</b> |  |     |         |         |            |              |             |
|                       | Administration Services                    |     |         |         |            |              |             |
|                       | Information Requests                       |     |         |         |            |              |             |
|                       | All Other Administration Services Requests | No  |         | 30.00   | Per hour   | STAT         | New fee     |

## RATES MODEL

### *Changes arising from supplementary valuations*

The ad valorem amounts and the estimated yields cited in the *Rates* component of the draft Revenue Policy were compiled from the land values of the properties recorded by Council as at 26 January 2016. The estimated yield from Ordinary rates was stated as being:

| Rate Model 1         | Yield \$             |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Residential Urban    | 5,792,787.00         |
| Residential Farmland | 3,577,674.00         |
| Business             | 1,393,282.00         |
| Farming              | 4,548,072.00         |
| Mining Coal          | 2,085,457.00         |
| Mining               | 35,509.00            |
| Rylstone Aeropark    | 10,447.00            |
|                      | <b>17,443,228.00</b> |

Since this time, Council has been issued with additional valuations as a result of recent subdivision activity which has increased the estimated yield from Ordinary rates for 2016/2017 to:

| Rate Model 1 with sups | Yield \$             |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Residential Urban      | 5,827,916.00         |
| Residential Farmland   | 3,601,653.00         |
| Business               | 1,397,667.00         |
| Farming                | 4,537,486.00         |
| Mining Coal            | 2,085,458.00         |
| Mining                 | 35,509.00            |
| Rylstone Aeropark      | 10,447.00            |
|                        | <b>17,496,136.00</b> |

Accordingly, it is proposed to amend the advertised ad valorem amounts for each category/subcategory to raise the additional \$52,908 in estimated yield due to natural growth. These amendments are not considered significant enough to warrant the readvertising of the Revenue Policy. There are no changes to the Minimum amounts proposed for each category/subcategory.

### *Ratepayer Reference Group*

The 2016/2017 Rates Reference Group was formed on 3 December 2015 and met with Council representatives on 11 December 2015 and 24 February 2016. The objective of the Group was to:

- Provide feedback regarding the equitable sharing of the rates burden between various categories of ratepayers – Residential, Business, Farmland, Mining;

The recommendation provided by the Group in relation to the above objective was considered by Council before compiling the draft Revenue Policy that forms part of Delivery Program 2014-2017/Operational Plan 2016/17 document. As a result of exhibition of the proposed Revenue Policy, Council is in receipt of 8 submissions on the rates structure for 2016/17 (as discussed earlier in this report). Council's deliberation of these submissions is necessary before considering adopting the recommendations in this Report.

## **LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) was last updated during preparation of the December 2015 QBR. Officers are currently updating the LTFP, and it will be presented to the June Council meeting with a recommendation for adoption.

## Community Plan implications

| <b>Theme</b> | <b>Good Governance</b>   |
|--------------|--|
| Goal         | An effective and efficient organisation                        |
| Strategy     | Prudently manage risks association with all Council activities |

## Financial implications

The 2016/17 budget as recommended to Council, will result in a projected decrease in unrestricted working capital of \$15,092.

LEONIE JOHNSON  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

23 May 2016

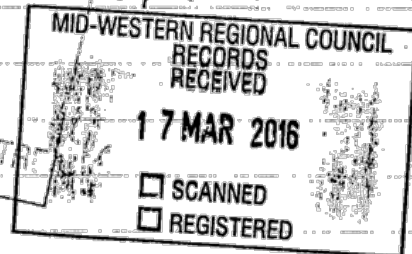
*Attachments:* 1. Budget Submissions 2016/17.

### APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER

Mid-Western County Council  
Market St.  
Mudgee 2850.

Levona Sandor  
Unit 6/12 Denison  
Mudgee 2850.  
17th March 2016



To whom,

Re: Dog Park

I am a resident and a dog owner in Mudgee. My desire is to bring to your attention that the provision of ONE dog park in Mudgee is grossly inadequate!! (Your advertising denotes 3 but one has to investigate further to find this means 1 in Rylestone, 1 in Lylgong, and 1 in Mudgee.)

Also the ONE park is north of the bridge and south of the river - where the population (both human and dog) is the greatest is not provided any area where dogs can roam, run and be socialised. Your rangers are known for doing their job well.

The lack of dog parks is detrimental to the tourists and they will not be caught twice. They will just go elsewhere.

The barking of dogs is a community problem but this would be reduced if the animals were not caged up, often restrained and unable to release their natural energy. Not all of us live on large land areas but that doesn't mean our "Companions" should have to live such restricted lives.

I urge you to look into this matter and act.

Levona Sandor

## MID WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY NEWS 2016

**TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY****DRAFT BUDGET**

ATTENTION ..... BRAD CAM – PIP GOLDSMITH

1. Identify if Street FIRE HYDRANTS are OPERABLE by the FOLLOWING.....
2. Make a GPS MAP with HYDRANT LOCATIONS in ALL TOWNS within MWRC SHIRE BOUNDARIES for EMERGENCY SERVICES.
3. CHECK & REPLACE ALL DELINEATORS ( Reflectors Blue Cats Eyes in middle of Road ) & make GOOD.
4. Make all YELLOW INDICATORS VISIBLE in GUTTER, FOOTPATH & HYDRANT COVERS.
5. REPLACE ALL HYDRANT COVERS that are defective.
6. Place the Above on a 3 MONTHLY ROSTER of OPENING ,TURNING ON & CLEARING THE LINE throughout the MWRC LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA with a Service Log as a Permanent Fixture.
7. Clean all GRASS, ASPHALT & OBSTRUCTIONS from around the HYDRANTS.
8. Your reply is welcome

**This is OUR SUGGESTION for SAFETY of RESIDENTS IN MWRC SHIRE.**

Paul & Roslyn Barton  
54 Gladstone Street  
MUDGEESBURGH NSW 2850  
E: [info@bartonsound.com.au](mailto:info@bartonsound.com.au)

16/03/2016



**From:** [Judy Hitchcock](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE GENERAL MANAGER - Submission on the 2016/2017 Draft Operational Plan and Amended Delivery Program  
**Date:** Thursday, 19 May 2016 12:45:20 PM

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Thursday 19 May 2016

Mr Brad Cam  
General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
Market Street  
Mudgee NSW 2850

Dear Brad

Following a review of the Council's 2016/2017 Draft Operational Plan and Amended Delivery Program that is currently on exhibition, it seems to me that there has been no funding provided in the budget for any upkeep or maintenance to the Mudgee Off Leash area located on Pitt's Lane near Glen Willow. I hope I have missed it in all the detail, but if true, this is a most disappointing situation and I request that you and your officers, and indeed the Councillors, reconsider this position and provide enough funding for the off leash area's upkeep and general maintenance, especially as our rates are about to increase by 1.8%!

The Council's own website states that we as dog owners should "ensure that your cat or dog is well socialised, trained and exercised" and yet we dog owners are forced to use what can only be described as a burr-infested, waterless wasteland outside of town as the only space where our dogs can stretch their legs and play together unfettered by leads and other restraints and without fear of being seized and the owners fined.

A few years ago we were shoved out to Pitt's Lane following the hue and cry about an off leash area at the showground, and now we find ourselves completely abandoned by those who put us there! Mudgee is supposedly the region's flagship town, and yet it has the most neglected off leash area in the region. Both Gulgong and Rylstone's spaces are far better located and looked after. The chairs, bags and water, and to some extent the bins, that are at the Mudgee park have all been provided by the people who use the area, not the Council. I don't even want to think about the last time that the ground was watered and weeded or when the trees were last cared for! Compare this to other Council areas in NSW and Mid-Western in Mudgee is seriously lagging.

A good example of a comparative area could be Singleton. They already have one dog-friendly space in the Heights. It is a football field and, when not being used, doubles as an off-leash area. There are bins a plenty, water sources and even dog-poo bags at either end of the field. Signs ask that people pick up after their dogs and the vast majority of people



do because there is rarely any excrement anywhere. A bit closer to town on the northern side of the river is a brand new, fenced, off leash dog area. It has two separate dog areas, seating for humans, lots of trees and is lush and inviting.

None of us are seeking the extravagance of the off leash areas of Orange, which are beautiful spaces full of agility equipment to keep dogs and their owners active and amused (although they at least have got it right!); but if a place like Singleton, in significant decline due to mining and with a transient population, can offer what they do then why can't we?

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Hitchcock  
2 Dunphy Crescent  
Mudgee NSW 2850

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1 McFarlane Street  
MUDGEE NSW 2850

24 May 2016

To the General Manager

Submission with regards to the 2016/17 Draft Operational Plan and Amended Delivery Program

Dear Sir

Further to my 24/3/16 letter regarding the Draft Glen Willow Masterplan in relation to the Off Leash Exercise area, I have been unable to find any information specific to the Mudgee Off Leash Area in the 2016/17 Draft Operational Plan beyond the provision of the off leash area listed as provided and utilised.

| Strategy 1.1.4 Work with key partners and the community to reduce crime, anti social behaviour and improve community safety |           |  |   |            |                |
|---|-----------|--|---|------------|----------------|
| DELIVERY PROGRAM 2013/14 - 2016/17  |           | OPERATIONAL PLAN 2016/17 PLAN - THE FINAL YEAR OF THE DELIVERY PROGRAM |   |            |                |
| ACTION  | TIMEFRAME | PROJECT/SERVICE  | MEASURE                                   | TIMEFRAME  | RESPONSIBILITY |
|   |           | Installation of path bins and bag dispensers along walking trails      | Works completed on schedule and on budget | 30/06/2017 | Open Space     |
|   |           | Provision of off leash areas   | Off leash dog areas provided and utilised | 30/06/2017 | Governance     |

Is funding in relation to the items listed in Mr Jones response to my letter – irrigation, double gate entry, seating, shade structures & turf improvement – included in the \$3000 000 Glen Willow Sports Ground upgrades planned for 2018 in the Draft Delivery Program?

| LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY         | 2017 | 2018  | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|------|------|
| <b>Swimming Pools</b>               |      |       |      |      |
| Pool Cleaner Replacement            | 15   | 15    | -    | -    |
| Pool Filter Replacement             | 20   | 20    | -    | -    |
| Gulgong Pool Club Room              | 10   | -     | -    | -    |
|                                     | 45   | 35    | -    | -    |
| <b>Sporting Grounds</b>             |      |       |      |      |
| Mudgee Showgrounds – Redevelopment* | -    | -     | 500  | -    |
| Glen Willow Sports Ground Upgrades* | -    | 3,000 | -    | -    |
| Glen Willow Carpark                 | 25   | 1     | 1    | 1    |

While an important part of Strategy 1.1.4 Work with key partners and the community to reduce crime, antisocial behaviour and improve community safety, I feel that the Off Leash area also incorporates Strategy 1.2.4 – Maintain and promote the aesthetic appeal of the towns and villages within the region. And, Strategy 2.1.4 Control invasive plant and animal species – Effective Weeds Management.

At minimum, irrigating and turfing the Glen Willow Off Leash area will add to the lovely landscaping of the surrounding area and add to the appeal of the Glen Willow Complex. It will also help to stop the spread of the ever present weeds and burrs that plague the Off Leash area. Simply by using the area Dogs and their owners spread everything growing in the Off Lease Area to every part of the Mid-Western Regional Council area they then visit. This can't be helpful in relation to Strategy 2.1.4.

Mr Jones letter advised that the amount of work that can be undertaken at the Off Leash Area will depend on the amount of funding that Council approves. Mr Jones also advised that he would include my 24/3/16 letter as a submission to the Operational and Delivery Plan but as I couldn't see any information specific to the Off Leash Area at Glen Willow in the Draft Plan I wanted to enquire if it is not included at all or if it is part of the Glen Willow budget?

As you will be aware from recent letters to the Mudgee Guardian and comments on Facebook, this is an emotive issue and something that Council can easily acknowledge with an extension of the current irrigation of other areas of Glen Willow, an extension of the water pipes to allow for a tap within the Off Leash area and turfing or work to eradicate the existing weeds problem in the area. From discussions with other users of the Off Leash Area these are of the highest priority in our wish list for the area.

While the other items on our wish list, like seating and shade would be greatly appreciated, especially before Summer, we understand that everything can't happen at once but, please, some things need to happen soon as the Off Leash Area has stagnated through several Budgets without much attention and it is now becoming a real issue rather than the great example of what an Off Leash Area should be.

Thankyou for your attention. We hope to hear back in relation to the Budget plans soon.

Regards



Carolyn & Bill Beamish



MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

PO Box 156, MUDGEES NSW 2850

86 Market Street, Mudgee | 109 Herbert Street, Gulgong | 77 Louee Street, Rylstone

T 1300 765 002 or 02 6378 2850 | F 02 6378 2815

E council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au

Sj: F0650099

4 April 2016

Carolyn and Bill Beamish,  
1 McFarlane Street  
Mudgee NSW 2850

COPY

Dear Carolyn &amp; Bill,

RE: DRAFT GLEN WILLOW MASTER PLAN

Thank you for your submission to the Glen Willow Master Plan. While the Master Plan is focused on the future needs of sporting facilities in the area, there is reference to the off-leash area in the Plan and, while not referenced, the diagram actually shows a doubling of the area for the off-leash area (you can see the dotted line running through the middle of the area shown).

Following on from the Master Plan, there will be a Management Plan for the Glen Willow area. This will include more references to the passive recreation areas (such as the off-leash area and the walkways/cycle ways).

Alongside this, a submission has been submitted to Council for the current budget. This includes works at the Off-Leash area such as irrigation, double gate entry, seating and shade structures and turf improvement works. The amount of work that can be undertaken will depend on the amount of funding that Council approves. Unless you have an objection to this, I will pass your letter on to our Finance department as a submission to the Operational and Delivery Plan 2016/17 when the budget goes out on public exhibition (expected to be later this month).

Thanks for your interest in the off-leash area and I encourage you to make submissions to Council on other documents when they are placed on public exhibition.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Jones".

SIMON JONES  
DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY

COPY

1 McFarlane Street  
MUDGEE NSW 2850

24 March 2016

To the General Manager

Submission with regards to the Draft Glen Willow Masterplan – Off Leash Dog Exercise Area

Dear Sir

My husband and I are frequent users of the Off Leash Exercise area within the Glen Willow complex. We have used the facility for many years from when it was a small area just past the soccer fields to the current larger area. We really appreciate this area because it can often be difficult to ensure our fur kids get enough exercise and this area is a boon to us.

The current Draft Glen Willow Masterplan does not include any improvements to the Off Leash Exercise area and I am hoping we can make some suggestions for your consideration.

Could the area be enlarged into the land to the south (towards the river) doubling the size of the current area? Sometimes there can over 20 dogs running around in the area and more space would greatly enhance the ability of owners to give their dogs a serious run within a protected environment. It will also provide enough space to ensure that canine tempers can be restrained a little better ensuring less incidents of nips and bites.

The trees that have been planted are really coming into their own. They provide a nice amount of shade currently and will provide more in future. The dogs certainly like them ☺. Would it be possible to provide a bit of landscaping like mounds and dips in the area? We often take our fur kids out to Gulgongs Off Leash area and find that they love running up the incline there and also in and around the copse of trees. While the flatter land at the Mudgee area would not be conducive to a long incline, perhaps some mounds of dirt, which would eventually be grassed over, would provide more variety. We understand creating dips might not be the best option in a flood prone area.

Could the area be included in the irrigation program for the Glen Willow Complex? It becomes a yard of dirt during the summer months which looks a bit out of place in the lush surrounds of the sporting grounds. Maintaining the grass within the area would have the benefit of keeping the prickles and weeds down and providing a nicer place for us to take our dogs. An added benefit would be that the Off Leash Area would look better to the users of the sporting sections and look more like part of the entire complex. The Parks staff do a great job trying to keep on top of weeds in the area but I am sure a lush grassed compound would make their job easier in that regard.

In conjunction with the above request, could a water tap be made available close to or within the Off Lease Exercise area. At the moment users of the area have to go all the way over to the back of the Netball Courts building to fill up containers to bring water back to the exercise area. I am sure you could understand how onerous that can be. Not having a water supply for the Off Leash Area is a major "conversation" point when getting together with other users out there.

Some picnic seats and permanent seating around the grounds would be brilliant and greatly appreciated. Some users have bought out picnic chairs for everyone's use but they are light and can blow around during storms. Unfortunately some have become targets for light fingered persons so permanent, fixed seating would solve both problems. The old exercise area had had a picnic table which was a great service but, unfortunately, some users left their rubbish on and around the table. Many of the current users are aware that this was a problem and have volunteered to ensure all rubbish is picked up and put in the supplied

bins. Many of the users do pick up patrols now so ensuring other rubbish is put in the bins will just be an extension of this. We really want the Off Leash Area to be a bonus to the area for locals and visitors. And there are many visitors to the area that use the Off Leash Area.

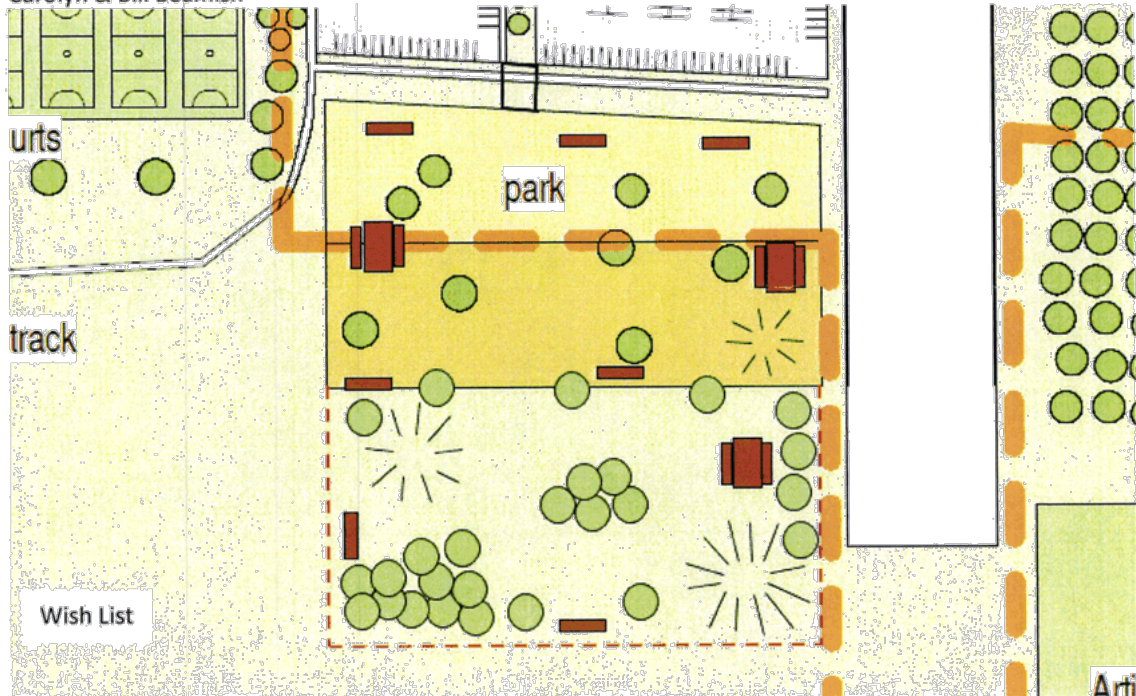
Another item on our wish list is for a double gate entry to the area. By this I mean a small fenced enclosure linked to the outside fencing with a second gate creating a barrier to the current entrance. This is to provide an "airlock" ensuring enthusiastic dogs within the area cannot escape while other enthusiastic dogs are being brought in. While on the subject of the entrance. The area gets very muddy when we have rain. At the moment Council puts gravel in the area when users ask for something to alleviate the mud. Could a cement apron be put in place around the entrance to protect against this and provide a permanent solution? No matter what we do, dogs love mud, but the entrance becomes a bog when multiple dogs and their parents have to enter and exit through mud hole.

There are many users who would also like to contribute to the area. We are aware that there are standards and rules applicable so working parties etc might be out of the question but we would like to fund raise towards items like picnic tables etc. and perhaps enter into an arrangement with Council for some items to be paid for by the users and purchased and installed by Council.

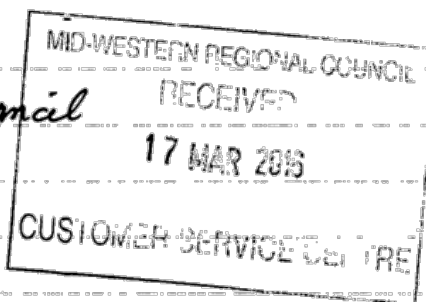
Thank you very much for your time. I hope that some or all of these items meet with your approval. The Off Leash Exercise area is a brilliant spot. It is close to parking, close to town without being surrounded by urban landscape, it is a good size but has room to become bigger and better. Local user and visitors appreciate what has been put in place for us but, as with all things, over time and with use, we find more or better ways to do things and I hoping that the Off Leash Area is something that Council will continue to build on and improve.

Regards

Carolyn & Bill Beamish



Mid: Western Council  
Market St  
Mudgee 2850



Leona Sandon  
Unit 6 / 12 Denison  
Mudgee 2850.  
17th March 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

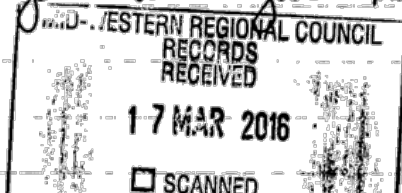
Further to your recent brochure regarding spending. I wish to request quite firmly the provision of a footpath - from George St to Burrindulla Rd on Denison Street.

The footway is uneven and having had a knee replacement in January and required to use a 'wal' I have had to walk on the road. I have currently graduated to a 'walking stick' which still requires me to walk on even ground. This means on the road and on the edge of the road is sloped (and therefore not usable.)

I do realize this is not very relevant to you. I am one ratepayer. On the nearby streets one side of the road usually has a footpath. But this section of Denison has none. i.e. no footpath on either side.

It is not a huge section that I am requesting but it is important to those of us who live here and further down. Should someone in their gopher get hit by a vehicle it will be on Council's feet. There is no where else to go but the road.

Trust you will give this request your immediate attention.



LSandon

The General Manager

PO Box 100 Mudgee 2850.

29-3-16

Mid -Western Regional Council.

Dear Sir,

In response to your request for suggestions towards Councils future planning I submit the following.

1. I would request Council to update the median strip at the far western end of Horatio Street west of Cox Street. The strip is in need of a nice row trees to help beautify this neglected section of the street which is blatantly being abused by some of the locals turning it into country dirt road, I am sure this was not the intended use.

2. My second suggestion is a long term project to co-inside with the bi-centenary of Mudgee in 2021.

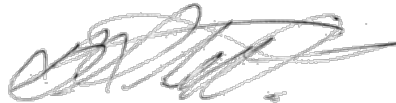
What I propose is a Lake to be established on the Cudgegong River at Lawson Park bounded by the present Southern Bank, the Ulan Road, the Lue Road and the imaginary extension of Lawson Street, with the possibility of a new updated weir raised a possible 20-40 cm. To be considered with this project is the establishment of up to four other weirs further along the Cudgegong before it's agglutinate with Burrendong Dam.

A water theme park could be incorporated in the system with sailing, canoeing, dragon racing and numerous other water activities.

One has only to look at the MIA to see the potential open to Mudgee, the weir system on the Murray River is a masterpiece of engineering and that has been operating for near on 100 years.

"Mighty Oaks from acorns grow"

Barry R Stutsel.



Enclosed is an article from a 2013 tourist guide giving an indication it had on the town of Mildura when the weir was drained to carry out repairs on the ageing weir.





# MilduraLiving magazine

Mildura Living magazine showcases the best of Sunraysia from Wentworth to Robinvale and is published quarterly in line with the seasons.

**PUBLISHER** Mildura Living Pty Ltd

**PUBLISHING EDITOR/  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR** Toni Stoeckel

**CONTRIBUTING EDITOR** Jacinta Allan-Gange

**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS** Kylie Norton, Emma Nesci

**ADVERTISING MANAGER** Sharon Lyell

**SALES EXECUTIVE** Kate Stockman

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

Corey Brown, Alastair Eagle, Lisa Clark, Darren Seiler, Grant Stoeckel

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Jacinta Allan-Gange, Donnie Byrne, Paul Danenberg, Terry Gange, Heather Lee, Kirsten Lloyd, Denise McCarthy, Margot Mills, Elizabeth Phillips, Mieka Symes, Anna Tyrrell, Angela Umback, Lyndall Vandenberg, Dean Worthington

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#### SUBSCRIPTIONS & FINANCE

Office Manager: Tanya Whitford  
admin@milduraliving.com.au

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Advertising Manager: Sharon Lyell  
sharon@milduraliving.com.au  
0428 291 626

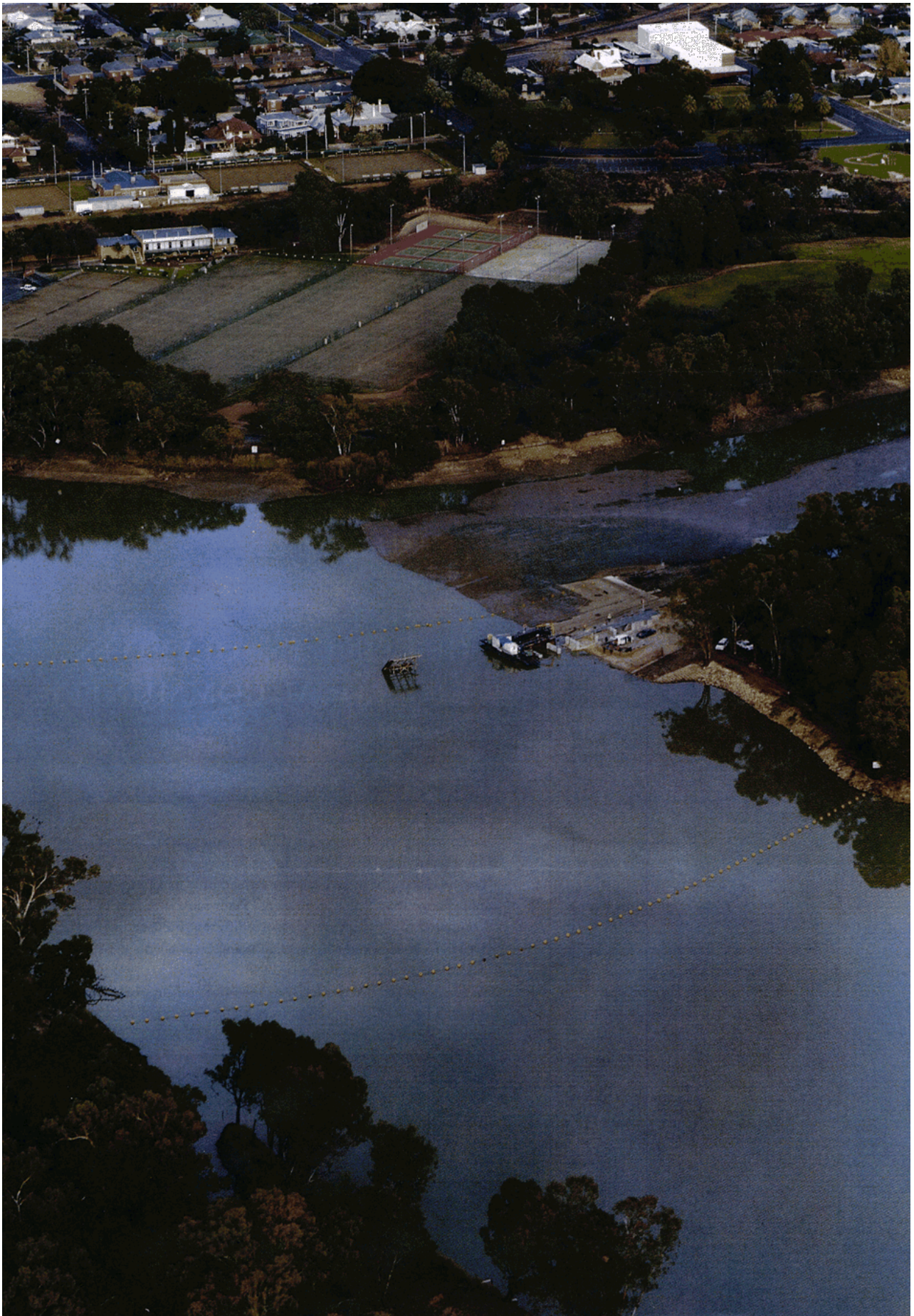
#### ENQUIRIES

Publishing Editor: Toni Stoeckel  
toni@milduraliving.com.au  
0415 826 444

Mildura Living Magazine  
PO Box 10161, Mildura VIC 3502  
Phone: (03) 5024 8333  
info@milduraliving.com.au  
www.milduraliving.com.au

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# Weir Standing the Test of Time



WORDS JACINTA ALLAN-GANGE PHOTOGRAPHY COREY BROWN

A houseboat stranded high and dry on the muddy river bed at Buronga became the signature image from the Murray River's dramatic winter fall at Mildura.

For the past 85 years, Lock 11 weir has held consistent water levels for 238 river kilometres between Mildura and Euston. But the weir's removal over winter for maintenance gave a graphic illustration of how different the region would be without this critical piece of infrastructure.

Lock 11, Lock 10 at Wentworth and Lock 15 at Robinvale are the essential infrastructure that underpins billions of dollars in irrigated agriculture, tourism and recreation by ensuring reliable river levels, even in drought.

Now between 75 and 85 years old, the weir structures are remarkable pieces of infrastructure.

"They are holding up really well, and what we do is really just maintenance work," says Malcolm Venturoni from Professional Diving Services.

As the co-ordinator of the annual maintenance survey by diving crews he knows the weirs better than most.

"We do an annual survey of the lock structure itself, checking

the doors, and valves, making sure that everything is up and removing any debris that has dropped off vessels c downstream.

"But this year we also worked with Goulburn Mu bring in specialised contractors, including my company, the trestle way across the weir at Mildura.

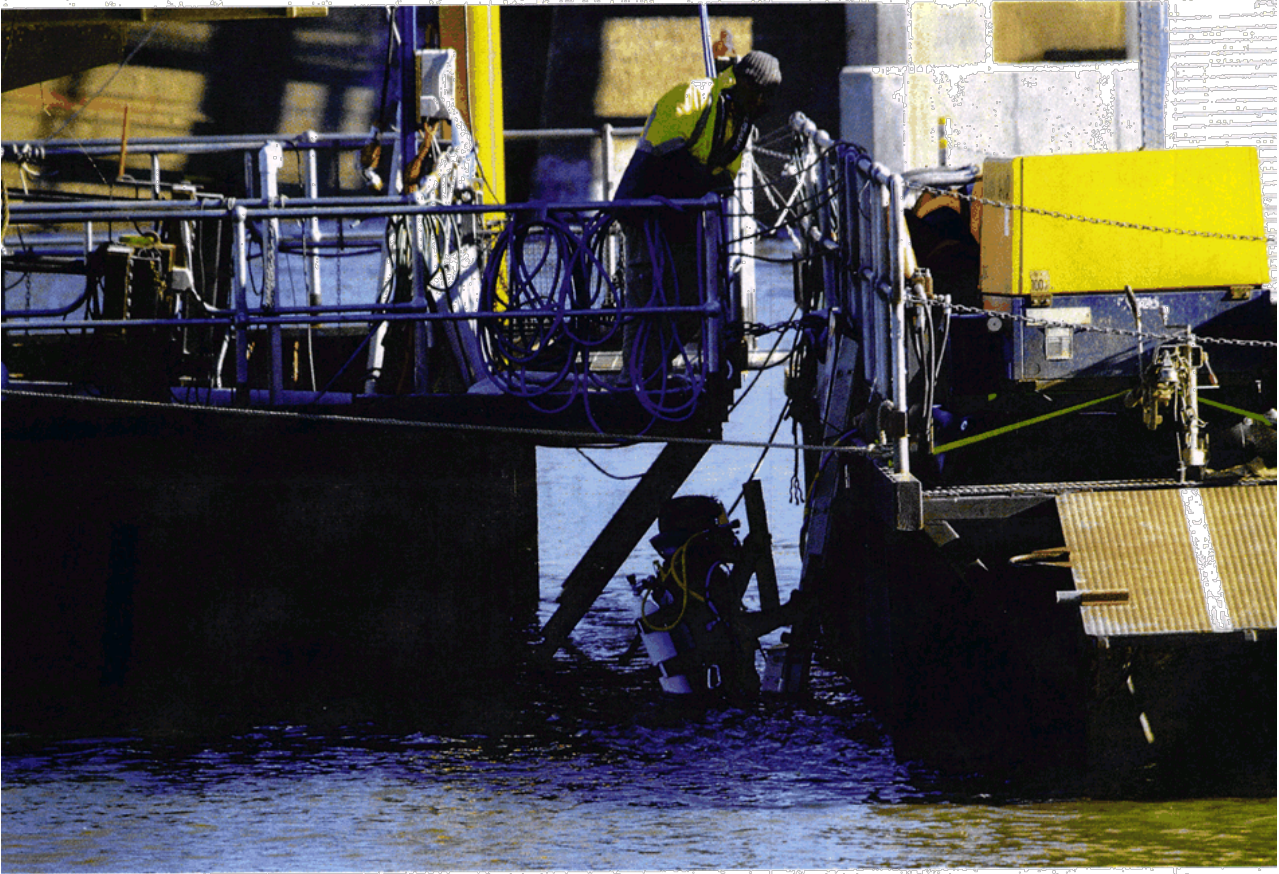
"It's amazing the condition the structures are in. re were very well constructed. What was built in the 1920 was built to last and they're of a quality we don't see w working on more recent structures."

While the weirs were built to high standards, histo less-flattering assessment of the decision-makers of the were unable to agree to allow construction of the locks go ahead.

The need for weirs on the river had been acknowl prior to the development of horticultural settlements.

As inland Australia was settled from the mid-1800 "Australian Mississippi" was envisaged on the Murray Ri or at the very least, an "inland highway" connecting gro settlements by using paddleboats.

## Mildura living | our river



OVE - Divers doing repair work on the weir. (Photo courtesy Glenn Milne)

The paddle-steamers provided a critical link, but the predictable river made transport and the supply of goods and services unreliable and weirs were cited as the solution.

The talk of a system of weirs to regulate the river intensified irrigation began at Mildura in 1887.

By the end of 1889, 600 acres had been taken up for new agricultural developments, and by 1890 the town had 3000 residents. By early in the 20th century, Mildura was producing tens of thousands of tons of fruit.

The settlement was entirely reliant on being able to pump water from the river through the network of pumping stations established at Psyche Bend, Kings Billabong and Nichols Point.

If settlers were painfully aware of their vulnerability, the droughts of 1902 and 1914 were graphic demonstration to decision-makers about the consequences of failing to develop weirs. Settlers took matters into their own hands and constructed temporary weirs from sandbags and earth at Psyche Bend to provide an artificial dam and to pump water to the dying fruit trees and vines.

Despite the growing reliance on irrigation, it took 40 years before the construction of a weir to be completed to protect the huge financial investment in Mildura's horticulture. Lock 11 at Mildura was finally completed in 1927. Wentworth followed in 1929 and in 1932 Euston Weir was completed. Combined with the South Australian structures they assured a navigable depth of two metres along 1000 kilometres of river.

The Mildura weir was a construction that consisted of steel

trestles running along rails across the bed of the river. Flow is controlled by placing a large number of slender wooden bars across the trestles. The Euston and Wentworth weirs have a section of permanent concrete piers half way across the river, and a section of steel trestles, where flow is controlled by using large concrete stoplogs and small wooden planks.

The Mildura Weir's 24 steel trestles each weighs 11 tonnes. Malcolm Venturoni says the only way to do maintenance on the weir structure itself is by using diving crews.

"In summer it is quite a pleasant environment getting into the water, but in winter, when the maintenance work is usually carried out, it's a bit chilly," he says.

"It's quite difficult work. Visibility is zero, so that everything we do is by feel – that's the way we have to train our divers to do it."

"We found eight or nine locations at Mildura where the concrete was damaged, and then we installed a coffer dam at each site so repairs could be carried out.

"We lowered the coffer dam structure down, sealed it, and then pumped the water out, so the repairs could be done in a dry environment."

Malcolm said occasionally the divers found unusual items during their work.

"When we were working at Robinvale this year we located some old diving weights," he says.

"We did some research with the Diving Historical Society and came across an old newspaper article about a diver who lost his



ABOVE - Barrage over Murray at Mildura, 1914 drought.  
*(Photo courtesy Mildura and District Historical Society)*  
LEFT & BELOW - Repair work on the weir.  
*(Photo courtesy Glenn Mine)*

weights while repairing the apron upstream of the weir.  
"It was those weights our divers found this year, about 50 years later. So we're getting those mounted and handing them back to the local community.  
"It's nice to be able to give something back, because the river communities do take a lot of interest in what we do and welcome us in when we are around."

**From:** [clare.bruton](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Att: General Manager, Mid-Western Regional Council,  
**Date:** Saturday, 2 April 2016 3:41:57 PM

---

Clare Bruton  
2085 Yarrabin Road,  
Yarrabin, NSW, 2850  
(02) 63730393  
0439 931462

02.04.2016

Att: General Manager, Mid-Western Regional Council,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the current condition of the gravel road section of Yarrabin Road leading up to Endacott's Lane and further on to Twelve Mile Road.

The road is in a very poor state and is littered with loose, large sharp rocks and boulders embedded in the roadway itself.

I have suffered a considerable amount of damage to my 4x4 vehicle in the last 3 months including a replacement three brand new tyres at a cost of \$250 each.

I only travel 3 kilometres of this road every three to four days and never reach speeds over 25 kilometres per hour. Despite travelling so slowly and cautiously I am still suffering from punctures to brand new tyres and making regular repairs to my vehicle due to the disturbing condition of the roadway.

I am beginning to find my situation quite dangerous as I am constantly changing tyres on the winding roadside that's lacking a shoulder, without mobile phone reception, with two young children in my company.

I have also found the school bus (Ogden's Coaches) to be running late on several occasions and after a short discussion with one of the drivers have discovered it has been due to the rough road.

In addition dust from the road is a severe problem at my property during the summer and dryer periods.

As I understand it is Council's prime objective in managing the Region's road network is to provide infrastructure that allows safe, convenient and comfortable travel to, from, and within the Region.

I am requesting that you add Yarrabin Road to the Road Network Strategic Plan as a priority to be graded, resurfaced and sealed.

Yours Sincerely

Clare Bruton

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**RKB&T**



ABN 46 659 693 462

PO Box 119, KANDOS NSW 2848

Email:- [rkbtssec@gmail.com](mailto:rkbtssec@gmail.com)

11<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Brad Cam  
General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156  
MUDGEES NSW 2850**

**Re: Draft Budget 2016/17**

Dear Brad,

In response to Council's call for submissions re the draft budget for 2016/17, we would like to request that funding be made available for provision of a Tourist Information Bay adjacent to the Cudgegong River at the northern approach to Rylstone, (along similar lines to that created at the western approach to Kandos).

This matter has been previously discussed with yourself and Daryl Colwell, and in June of last year council staff estimated such a project would cost approximately \$35,000 to undertake.

The provision of such a facility will complete the plans for that piece of land where Rotary and Council have previously provided and installed 3 covered picnic tables.

**Yours in local business & tourism,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Monaghan", written over a horizontal line.

**Peter Monaghan – Secretary of RKB&T**

Rylstone-Kandos; Two Towns, One Community

**From:** [Leonie Johnson](#)  
[Neil Bungate](#); [Alison Cameron](#)  
FW: Kaludabah Road, Mudgee  
Thursday, 14 April 2016 12:35:21 PM

---

Mid Western Regional Council

Mudgee. NSW 2850

Dear Sir

We are owners of a 1500 acre property known as "Beaudesert South" approximately 6km on the Kaludabah Road.

We travel to the Property daily for the purposes of running a rural business and in the near future we plan to build a home for ourselves and our four children. Upon moving out to the property we will also be lobbying for school bus service along the Kaludabah Road for the numerous school children living there.

We write to express our extreme concern of the current condition of the Kaludabah Road which is causing considerable damage to our vehicles. Truck transport, which regularly attends the property for cattle transportation & machinery is also inhibited.

We request that Council place Kaludabah Road on a budget to tar seal as a matter of urgency not just for ourselves but our adjoining neighbours.

Thank you for your time,  
Yours sincerely  
Mark & Katrina Dalton

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**From:** [Leonie Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Neil Bungate](#); [Alison Cameron](#)  
**Cc:** [Sally Mullinger](#); [Andrew Kearins](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kaludabah Rd.  
**Date:** Thursday, 7 April 2016 4:48:22 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: baldridgecattle [<mailto:baldridgecattle@bigpond.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, 7 April 2016 2:43 PM  
To: Brad Cam <[Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)>  
Subject: Kaludabah Rd.

Dear Sir, I am writing in support of tar sealing Kaludabah Road. The current condition of the road is quite appalling. The amount of traffic use on the road seems to be ever increasing. We operate a Wagyu beef cattle stud and an AQIS accredited Center for export beef genetics. We currently export to USA, South Africa and parts of Asia.

Consequently, we have a large number of visitors to our property. This June 9th, we are having our inaugural on property Bull and select female sale at "Kaludabah". This will become an annual event. We are expecting a large attendance from local and interstate buyers, as well as people from the above mentioned countries.

It would make a huge difference to have a more user friendly and functional entry to our property.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Faithfully,

Rick Hunter.

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17<sup>th</sup> June 2014

The Acting General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
86 Market Street  
Mudgee NSW 2850



Dear Sir,

RE: The Kaludabah Road

We currently have two properties listed for sale on the Kaludabah Road and note its bad condition.

Over the past 12 months we have sold some 10 properties along this road. The majority of the new owners intend building homes, some have already done so.

While the road was graded last year top soil from the sides was spread across the width and thus after first rain the roads returned to their poor condition.

The road services a number of large rural holdings and several 100 hectare properties.

Would council consider putting this road on a definite sealing programme as it is many years since any sealing was conducted on it? Even if council would consider sealing approximately 1.5kms to the first culvert at least that would be some comfort for the current residents in the near future.

It appears the road has been forgotten in the years past in terms of a sealing programme.

Yours Faithfully

Andrew Palmer  
Principal  
The Property Shop

General Manager ,  
Mid Western Regional Council,

Greg Spinks  
1935 Castlereagh Hwy,  
Galambine via Mudgee, .  
Ph 0488211856  
gyonspinks@bigpond.com

Request for Kaludabah road to be sealed.

My wife Narelle and I currently own a 97 hectare property situated at 428 Kaludabah Road, Piambong via Mudgee. I purchased the property during 2012. At the time of purchase, Kaludabah Road, serviced a small volume of vehicular traffic daily.

The property purchase was part of a large subdivision. The subdivision has seen the volume of traffic on the road escalate substantially. The significant increase in daily traffic has seen the unsealed road deteriorate to a situation where it is not uncommon for road users to suffer tyre punctures. My vehicles have fallen prey to the road, resulting in 4 punctures over the past two years.

During 2014, whilst driving my Toyota Hilux utility along Kaludabah Road, I ran over a piece of steeling rod, which I did not see. The rod speared up into the front passenger floor piercing the under carriage. The rod was approximately 60cm long. Fortunately no one was seated in the passenger seat, as the angle of the rod could have penetrated a persons lower leg.

Our initial reason for purchasing the property was to build a family home and live at Kaludabah. Our property is fully arable with good grazing and cropping country. However over the ensuing period since purchasing the property, we have observed an increase in the volume of road traffic which has impacted negatively on the integrity of the road surface. The road condition is the singular most significant reason why we have decided not to build our residential home at Kaludabah.

The road suffers from corrugation, caused primarily by dry, granular road material and repeated traffic travelling above 10kph. The corrugations create an uncomfortable ride for the occupants of vehicles and hazardous driving conditions for vehicles that travel too fast to maintain traction and control. Studies have shown that increased light vehicles have a bigger effect on producing corrugation or washboarding on unsealed roads than heavy trucks.

Whilst we have decided against building at Kaludabah until the road is improved, I still attend the property on a daily basis tending to the farm. As a breeder of stud Wiltipoll sheep and pure bred dorpers, I sell a number of stock from the paddock. I often need to show potential clients the stud stock before sale. The poor condition of the road has been a conversation topic by buyers on a number of occasions.

I note Kaludabah Road, is listed as a minor local road, 7.63 kilometres long. Mid Western Regional Council has the road listed as a 24 month grading. With the increased volume of traffic and the resulting increased degradation of the road this appears insufficient to maintain the road to an acceptable standard where road users do not suffer damage to their vehicle. My considered opinion as a layperson and ratepayer is the road should be categorised as a '4', being poor condition renewal required.

I formally request consideration be given to upgrading Kaludabah Road, to a sealed road.

Regards

Greg Spinks

**From:** [Leonie Johnson](mailto:Leonie.Johnson)  
**To:** [Neil Bungate](mailto:Neil.Bungate); [Alison Cameron](mailto:Alison.Cameron)  
**Subject:** FW: Tar sealing for Kaludabah Road, Piambong  
**Date:** Monday, 11 April 2016 12:40:14 PM

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**From:** Tracey Watt [<mailto:twatt888@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 7 April 2016 4:38 PM  
**To:** Brad Cam <[Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Tar sealing for Kaludabah Road, Piambong

Dear Brad,

I am appealing to you for your help in regards to Kaludabah Road, Piambong.

I am a resident and my address is 829 Kaludabah Road. I am right down the end.

My husband and I travel the road everyday to and from work. The road is extremely dangerous and needs to be tar sealed immediately.

The rocks on the road cause our cars to slide from side to side all the time and especially after rain and constant tyre damage. There are many new residents along the road. Several of us are travelling at the same time and the dust storm that occurs if you are behind another car is a risk not only to our health but also a risk to children and animals that maybe on the road, and it is impossible to see another car during this time as visibility is NIL. Not to mention the pot holes and corrugations which are a hazard and could cause loss of control and therefore accidents. Council needs to be diligent and responsible with this decision and our safety should be paramount in this instance.

Please help us in this matter,

Ian and Tracey Watt  
829 Kaludabah Road  
Piambong 2850

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**From:** [Leonie Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Neil Bungate](#); [Alison Cameron](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sealing of Kaludabah Rd  
**Date:** Monday, 11 April 2016 3:52:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)

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**From:** Jacquie and Geoff Spice [<mailto:geoffspice@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, 8 April 2016 11:05 AM  
**To:** Brad Cam <[Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Sealing of Kaludabah Rd

Hi Brad,

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Geoffrey Spice. My family and I live at 433 Kaludabah rd, 3 years ago we purchased Lot 8 and Lot 9 Kaludabah rd, since then we have built a home and we are now living out here.

At first we thought we would be moving out to a small and quite farming community with a particular statues in the local area but since moving here we have notice that they is a extraordinarily amount of traffic on the Kaludabah rd both day and night.

My wife has to travel to Ulan each day for work and I travel into town also each day for work and 4 nights a week for training and again on weekend for sports and Church. The dirt road is very rough at the moment and their are a lot of large rock coming dislodge and laying in the middle of the road and are becoming very hazardous and dangerous for drivers, Just this morning my wife got flat tyre on her way to work!! the wear and tire alone on the car is also becoming an issue!

Currently we teaching our son Ethan to drive and on several occasion we have had to stop and move large stones off the road before they have caused an accident. In the last 2 years their has been about 6 new homes built along the Kaludabah road and all of these have at least 2 to 3 cars in each family that is a least 18 more car in the area and that equates to 36 times extra per day the road is used if they only go into town once a day each, this alone has increased the traffic flow enormously.

Most of these new home are buying and selling their own stock and now we

have a greater number of stock truck coming along the road, also with the Kaludabah Cattle Stud becoming a place to visit for International Wagu Beef Cattle buyers and weekend visitors who are not familiar with driving on dirt roads it is also a serious problem.

We also own and operate Mudgee Martial Arts and on occasion have visitor come to Mudgee for training and often they stay at our property and on several occasion they have mention just how bad the road is to travel on and that we should notify the local council to grade or seal the road to make it safer for visitors.

Often their will be a tractor, a cattle truck or a low loader with a dozer or excavator on it coming along the road and it is very dangerous trying to let it pass in some areas, especially at the bridge, on a normal day it is bad enough just trying to see if their is another car or bike coming in the opposite direction because of the weeds, they are so hard to see over or through!.

Brad I'm not sure if you are aware that this ONLY a one way bridge and their are no sign's to warn on coming traffic of this? and it is on such a tight bend as well (So Dangerous!!) just controlling the weeds on a regular basis and putting up some signage at the creek crossing before their is a serious accident or a fatality!! would be a start. We seriously do believe that the council need to look at this bride crossing sooner that late, i'm sure that in its present stare it does not meet the MRTA's requirements!!

We understand that their are other project that are going to take priority, but the Kaludabah rd is in great need of sealing and the situation with the little one way bridge is also a matter that should not be over look for much LONGER!

It is in the interest of the local community, residents and visitors that come to the local area to have something done about the Bridge and sealing the road even if it was put into to the 2016/2017 budget that the council seal one or two kilometre each year this would reduce the likelihood of an serious accident dramatically.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns and we look forward to hearing from you regarding this topic,

*Regards*

*Geoff and Jacquie Spice*

Mudgee Martial Arts  
MB 0434220184

MB 0423049788





**From:** [Leonie Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Neil Bungate](#); [Alison Cameron](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sealing of Kaludabah Road Piambong  
**Date:** Monday, 11 April 2016 3:52:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)

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**From:** Cheryl [<mailto:cheryl@pedubacleaning.com.au>]  
**Sent:** Friday, 8 April 2016 2:58 PM  
**To:** Brad Cam <[Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Sealing of Kaludabah Road Piambong

To Whom it may concern

Re: Sealing of Kaludabah Road Piambong.

We are the owners of 735 Kaludabah Rd & have Limousin Stud cattle, we have clientele come and inspect the cattle but due to the condition of the dirt road we have lost potential buyers, as they don't want to drive on the road as they feel it is too dangerous.

It is our opinion that the road needs to be sealed. This will save long term maintenance and will improve the safety of the traffic & families driving on this road. When it rains the road becomes slippery and dangerous. The community has increase from only 2 owners to now 11 owners & climbing. There is a lot of families now on this Road and we are concerned for the welfare of these drivers due to the condition of the road, we also need speed signs on the road, as a lot of drivers seem to be exceeding the speed limits. I have repaired my cattle grids 3 weeks ago & it has been already torn up, it might be good to have speed limit signs of 10klms before the grids. We have had trucks delivering gravel to put down our driveway and the deliver company said they wouldn't make any further deliveries due to the condition of the dirt road.

We would like to have someone come out and inspect the road ASAP. Please contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,

Paul Axiak | Peduba Cleaning Services

P: (02) 4773 8322 | F:(02) 4773 8355 | M: 0418 258 173  
E: [cheryl@pedubacleaning.com.au](mailto:cheryl@pedubacleaning.com.au)



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51 MAIALA RD  
COOKS GAP  
NSW.

Frances Laidler

0418 468

810

before 1pm -

6373 4693

to Mette

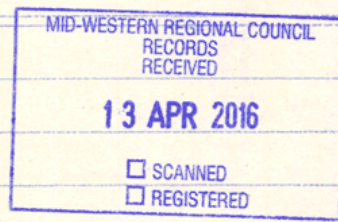
GENERAL MANAGER  
ATTENTION BRAD CAM.

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL  
86 MARKET ST  
MUDGEE



POSTCODE

2 8 5 0



51 MAIALA RD  
COOK GAP.  
NSW 28.  
12.4.2016.  
ph no - 02 6373 4693.

2/ General Manager  
Brad Cam.

As suggested by MWRC I'm putting a submission in as it is "Budget Time".

The submission is for the sealing of Maiala Rd, Cooks Gap.

The road is in disrepair and urgently needs proper attention, not just a grade and a roll. That will not fix the problem. It falls apart in a couple of weeks of being graded due to the traffic volume.

As stated by a MWRC representative - review was done 5yrs ago on our road & was thought NOT to have been a high traffic volume road. On the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 a traffic counter was put across the entry into Maiala Road. The counter was actually suggested by my husband to council to prove the traffic volume. It was left there for approx. 2 mths. I contacted MWRC a week after it was removed to find out the traffic volume of the road. I was told it 'WAS' deemed to be a high traffic volume road.

traffic counter had 'NEVER' been installed on our road prior to March 2015.

As it "NOW" has been proved to be a high traffic volume road by MWRC "ALL" the residents of Maiala Road feel it is now time to get it sealed. The residents have waited far too long for something to be done, as this issue has been going on for nearly 25 years.

Yours Sincerely

Francis Laidler.

FRANCES LAIDLER.

Spokes person for residents of Maiala Rd.  
Cooks Gap.

I would like some form of a written response to this submission to inform me that submission has been read & submitted. *FL*

**From:** [Leonie Johnson](mailto:Leonie.Johnson@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [Alison Cameron](mailto:Alison.Cameron@midwestern.nsw.gov.au); [Neil Bungate](mailto:Neil.Bungate@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)  
**Subject:** FW: Gulgong footpaths  
**Date:** Wednesday, 13 April 2016 2:54:45 PM

---

FYI

---

**From:** Chris Pearson [<mailto:chris@thepearsons.com.au>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 10 April 2016 7:17 PM  
**To:** Brad Cam <[Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Cam@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Gulgong footpaths

Good morning Brad

I note with great interest and gratitude the footpath/ramp improvements currently being undertaken in Gulgong.

Thank you for holding off 'til funding became available to do the long overdue section of Medley, Mayne to Robinson.

I understand you will be using river gravel and going full width which will eliminate any further weed and unevenness problems.

As you recall, this unsightly section has for years been the subject to; many letters from concerned residents and business people, concerns from the Chamber of Commerce, several onsite meetings and deputations to Council's open forums.

Can you confirm that the new section will run right through to Robinson St as previously discussed?

Likewise, the historic gutter stones are in need of stabilization.

Now that the inside edges are exposed, you have a golden opportunity to adjust and tie them to the slab.

The unsightly steel rods/tubes currently offering some support (see attached photos) are no asset to our street scape.

Some stones are missing and I dare say that pieces of bluestone from GDH demolition would be available.

Have you sought heritage stonemason advice on this important aspect?

Finally, may I respectfully request the inclusion of more "swaggy trail" ceramic symbols which now appear in Mayne St and Coronation Park.

These are very well received by tourists and add another dimension to our town.

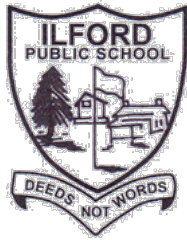
I have broached with subject with their creator, Chester Nealie (0263741415) who is willing to discuss the matter with you.

Provision for the tiles can be simply included in the pour if funding is unavailable at the moment.

Many thanks for all your support.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Pearson  
63741844.

**ILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C**

6943 Castlereagh Highway

Ilford NSW 2850

Ph: (02) 63588507 Fax: (02) 63588524

Email: [ilford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ilford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)Web: [www.ilford-p.school.det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.ilford-p.school.det.nsw.edu.au)

President: Audrey Rutter

10 March 2016

Mid-Western Regional Council  
86 Market Street  
Mudgee NSW 2850

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to you on behalf of the Ilford Public School P&C Committee to find out if there are any avenues for the Ilford Public School to apply for funding to support the school's Music Program.

We are seeking funds for three aspects of the Music Program.

- a) Purchase of a shipping container. The container would be used to house sporting equipment so that a space can be made available for a music room. Currently the allocated space for the music room is very small and can only accommodate a few students at a time.
- b) Refurbishment of the vacated sports shed. The sport shed in its current form would require some refurbishment to turn it into a workable space where the children can have music lessons and practice playing their instruments.
- c) Program funding. In the past, MWRC has made a contribution which has assisted us to keep the Music Program afloat. However, without continued assistance the program has again been reduced and is again in danger of being cancelled due to lack of funds.

For various reasons, the Ilford Public School misses out on various types of government funding which other small schools in the region receive. As such, the Ilford Public School P&C must work hard to raise funds to support our children through their education. However, as we are a small and somewhat isolated community we have limited fundraising opportunities available to us and limited potential to raise funds.

I would be very grateful if my enquiry could be directed to the appropriate person within Council for advice as to the possibility of applying for a grant to sustain our Music Program over the current and future years.

The Ilford Public School P&C believes the school's Music Program is an important component of our children's education. We would be grateful for any contribution the MWRC could make.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Moloney  
Secretary  
Ilford Public School P&C





## MUDGEE HIGH SCHOOL

LOCKED BAG 2004, MUDGEE NSW 2850

PH: (02) 6372 1533 FAX: (02) 6372 6321

ABN: 25 074 408 459



Mr Des Kennedy  
Mayor  
Mid Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156  
Mudgee NSW 2850

9 May 2016

Dear Mr Kennedy,

Mudgee High School is actively seeking to improve the educational opportunities of our students through the acquisition of new technology that will enhance student outcomes within the classroom and assist in preparing them for the challenges in what is a rapidly changing world.

We are keen to acquire a laser cutter. A laser cutter uses a powerful laser to cut or engrave items from flat sheets of material like plastic, wood, glass, cloth and metal.

Laser cutting is an increasingly more popular manufacturing technique used in industry but is only available to a select few NSW Government schools that have the financial capacity to purchase this technology. At this time, Mudgee High School is not in a financial position to purchase this equipment. It would, however, be invaluable to our students across many faculties within our school and other schools within the Cudgegong Learning Community.

The nearest laser cutter CLC students can access is in Dubbo. Larger communities such as Dubbo and Orange have access to these machines in their schools. This limits student opportunity to access laser cutter technology, leaving them disadvantaged when compared to students in larger centres.

The Cudgegong Learning Community comprises Mudgee High School, Gulgong High School, Kandos High School, Mudgee Public School, Cudgegong Valley Public School, Gulgong Public School, Kandos Public School, Rylstone Public School, Hargraves Public School, Ifford Public School, Lue Public School, Ulan Public School, Coolah Central School, Dunedoo Central School and Wollar Public School.

All of these schools would benefit from having more local access to this amazing technology.

This technology in our school would benefit our students educationally in a number of ways:

- Industrial Technology and Design and Technology Major Projects- this machine will achieve extremely accurate cutting of components such as veneer inlays, feature engraving and efficient template production.
- Textiles and Design- cutting of fabric shapes and patterns and engraving images on to material.
- Creative and Performing Arts- production of major works in visual arts.



[mudgee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mudgee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

[www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)



[www.facebook.com/MudgeeHighSchool](https://www.facebook.com/MudgeeHighSchool)



[www.twitter.com/MudgeeHS](https://www.twitter.com/MudgeeHS)



SCAN THIS

CODE FOR MORE

- Science - engagement is part of the 5e model of teaching the new Australian Curriculum. In order to be able to better engage rural and remote students, innovative resourcing would be of great benefit. This technology will increase their engagement through pedagogically sound educational activities. Student understanding of concepts such as forces and flight would improve through the construction of relevant models like aerofoils made from materials such as balsa and plastic. A laser cutter would also greatly assist students in understanding quite complex concepts such as Biotechnology as the cutter would allow students to engage with more accurate biological models.
- Mathematics - cut nets, measurements, tessellations, area volume and geometry.
- Human Society and its Environment & Aboriginal Studies- would enable students to create modern digitalized indigenous art. It would also permit students the ability to demonstrate understanding of concepts by more effectively creating visual representations of their knowledge.

An indicator of success will be the active use of the technology within the Cudgegong Learning Community. It will be extremely beneficial to all students, particularly those students studying Higher School Certificate subjects that have a practical component, as it would enable them to compete with other students in the state on a level playing field. Upon leaving school, students will be equipped with knowledge and skills in the use of what is a modern manufacturing method that is used extensively across many industries.

The laser cutter is available to NSW Government Schools for purchase through Laser & Sign Technology who currently have the NSW Government contract. The cost of this equipment is \$35,680. Mudgee High School will be more than happy to absorb future costs for the laser cutter which will include servicing and upkeep.

We would greatly appreciate any contribution by Mid Western Regional Council and we will be pleased to acknowledge your generosity through our weekly school newsletter, local newspapers including The Weekly and Mudgee Guardian, school website and school signage.

Our senior students annually raise around \$30,000 for worthy causes within the community like Mindmatters, the Rural Fire Service, PCYC, our local hospital and many other beneficiaries. They don't expect reciprocity, but they would be more than pleased to have a laser cutter within the school.

Thank you for considering our application.

Yours sincerely,



Wayne Eade  
Principal  
Mudgee High School



5 April 2016

Simon Jones  
Director Community  
PO Box 156  
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Simon

In response to your email requesting information on numbers, capacity and demand I do apologise for the delay in getting this to you as I have been away.

Attached please find a document with our current numbers, capacity, assessment and the stages of our proposed project. I have endeavoured to include all data for consideration.

Councillor Peter Shelley also approached us regarding the \$100,000 which may be included in the budget for this work or the other option of the land and building being gifted to us. This has been discussed at a meeting briefly but is a huge decision which would need time for us to reflect upon. Can you please confirm this offer in writing if this is the case please.

Any further information from council would be truly appreciated and if we are to continue in one way or another we would need to meet and discuss our options.

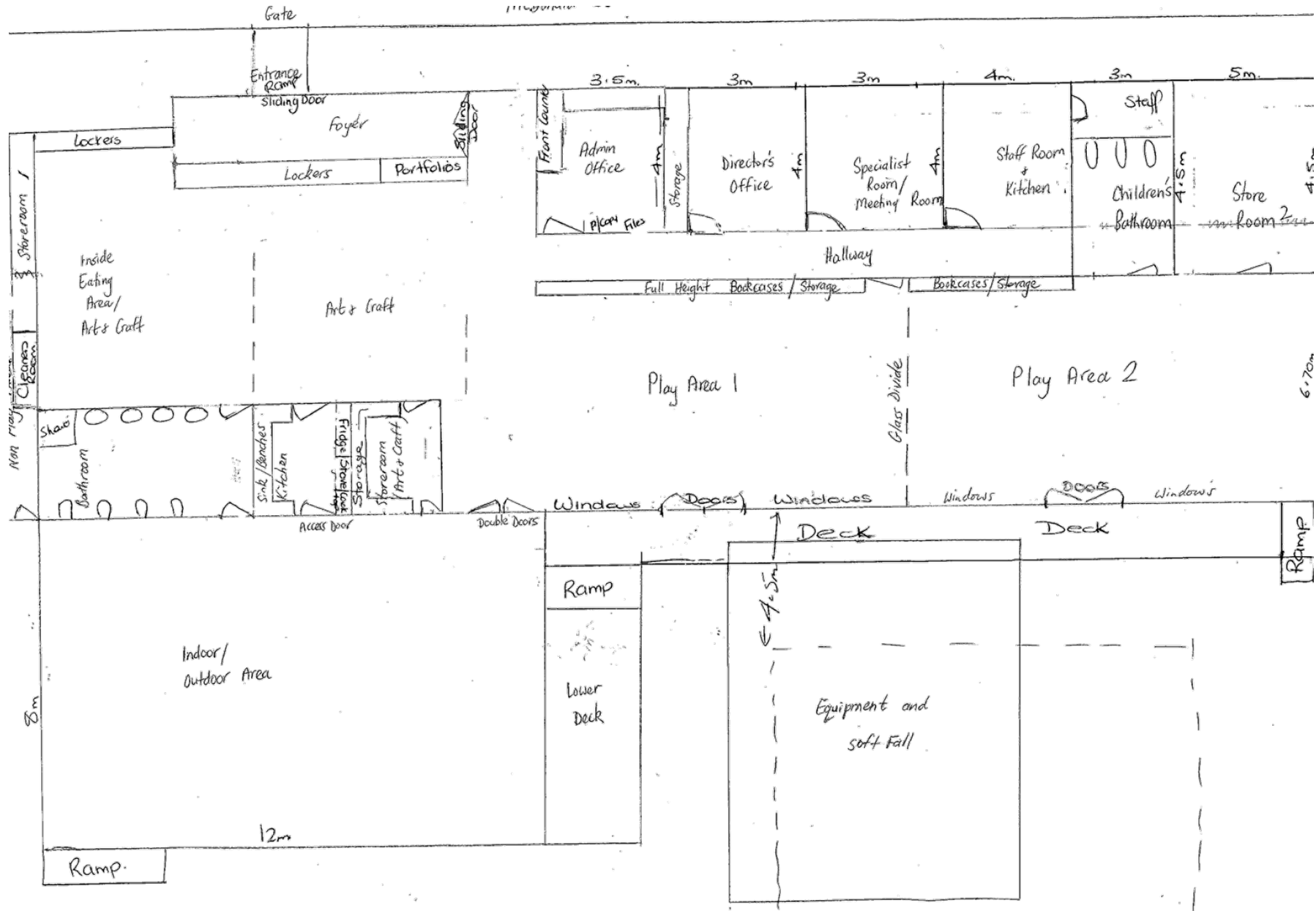
We would hope that Council would like to remain a partner in the Rylstone Kandos Preschool as it is the only early childhood education facility in our whole community of Kandos, Rylstone, Glen Alice, Glen Davis, Charbon, Clandulla, Ilford, Lue.

Looking forward to working with you in the near future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Leanne Neilsen', is written over a horizontal line.

Leanne Neilsen  
Office Manager/ Project co-ordinator



## COUNTRYPHYSIOTHERAPY

Shop 2, 160 Church St  
Mudgee NSW 2850  
P 6372 6907  
F 6372 9067

102 Herbert Street  
Gulgong NSW 2852  
P 6374 2330  
F 6374 2332

E [info@countryphysio.com.au](mailto:info@countryphysio.com.au)

[www.countryphysio.com.au](http://www.countryphysio.com.au)

5 April 2016

To whom it may concern,

Country Physiotherapy has been located at 160 Church Street Mudgee for over 10 years. In this time, we have seen over 9000 clients come through our doors. We have expanded to offer a wider range of services to better meet the needs of the community.

We would like to request the garden located on the corner of Church and Inglis Street be upgraded to be a more functional and appealing space. We service a wide range of clients with mobility issues and parking is not always available at the front of our clinic meaning that it can be quite an effort for some patients to make it in to our clinic. Bench seating located on the corner to give some respite to these clients would provide an ideal use for the currently underutilised space. We also request that a bin be installed within this area, as the garden and shop front is frequently strewn with litter.

We look forward to hearing from you in relation to this matter.

Kind regards,

Madeline Byrne

Practice Manager



**RAY WILLIAMSON PLUMBING SERVICES PTY LTD**A.C.N. 001 546 201  
ABN 41 875 364 650**5/12 SYDNEY ROAD ~ PO BOX 273 ~ MUDGEE NSW 2850**

Mob: 0419 425 654 Fax: (02) 6372 3935

raywill@hwy.com.au

7 April 2016

Ms Tracey Kane  
Parks & Gardens  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
86 Market Street  
MUDGEE NSW 2850**RE: 160 CHURCH STREET GARDEN**

Dear Ms Kane

I have recently purchased the property known as "The Bridge" at 160 Church Street, Mudgee.

As the new owner I have been approached by several tenants asking to support their efforts to have Council attend to the garden and grass area on the corner of Church and Inglis Streets.

The garden is full of weeds and dead plants and is suffering from long term neglect.

I note that around Mudgee we have several roundabouts and nature strips that receive a lot of attention. These areas look great and enhance our town for both locals and visitors alike.

I walk daily through the river area and extension bridge across the river towards the Glen Willow sporting ground and must commend Council Parks and Gardens for the ongoing work beautifying our town.

With the town expanding and growth of businesses moving further south I feel that it is not unreasonable to ask for attention to the Church & Inglis Street corner.

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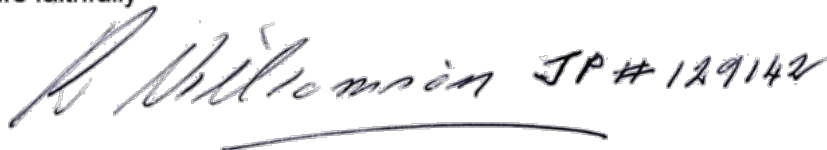
This portion of Church Street leading to South Mudgee is extremely busy with a lot of pedestrian and road traffic.

The businesses in "The Bridge" complex have all invested a lot of time and money in making their area of expertise welcoming to their clients. With that in mind I fully support their request to have the garden area attended to. It is viewed by anyone driving towards the Medical Centre or those coming from South Mudgee.

I enclose copies of the letters they have given me and I understand they have also sent their request to Council.

I would appreciate your early response pertaining to this matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Williamson JP # 129142". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Ray Williamson



To: Mid Western Regional Council

PO Box 571  
Mudgee NSW 2850  
PH: 6370 8100  
Fax: 6372 4599

To whom it may concern,

The Benevolent Society has been a tenant of 160 Church Street Mudgee for over 5 years. The Benevolent Society is Australia's oldest charity, and we provide social support services to vulnerable people in our community. In Mudgee we service over 80 people at any given time, including adults and children with disabilities.

We would like to request that the garden on the corner of Church and Inglis Street be redesigned to improve the street appeal and practical use of the public space as it is currently an underutilised opportunity.

We would like to request that the garden is redesigned to include sensory planting (lavender, citrus, rosemary, thyme and scented flowers) to provide a welcoming and calming experience for our clients and visitors and improve the overall street appeal.

We would also like to request that a bench seat is installed to provide seating for people with mobility issues when walking from their vehicles to our office for appointments.

We would be willing to provide volunteers to assist in a working bee to reduce council labor costs.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amie Carrington".

Amie Carrington  
Community Programs Manager

Celebrating  
200 Years

Registered Office  
The Benevolent Society  
Level 1, 188 Oxford Street  
Paddington NSW 2021

PO Box 171 Paddington NSW 2021  
T 02 9339 8000  
F 02 9360 2319  
Donations 1800 819 633

[www.benevolent.org.au](http://www.benevolent.org.au)  
ABN 95 084 695 045



**COUNTRY** Physiotherapy  
Mudgee NSW 2850  
6372 6907  
6372 9067

Shop 2, 160 Church St  
Mudgee NSW 2850  
6372 6907  
6372 9067

102 Herbert Street  
Gulgong NSW 2852  
6374 2330  
6374 2332

[info@countryphysio.com.au](mailto:info@countryphysio.com.au)

5 April 2016

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We look forward to hearing from you in relation to this matter.

Kind regards,



Madeline Byrne  
Practice Manager





To: Mid Western Shire Council care of Parks and Gardens

PO Box 571  
Mudgee NSW 2850  
PH: 6370 8100  
Fax: 6372 4599

To whom it may concern,

The Benevolent Society has been a tenant of 1/160 Church Street Mudgee for over 5 years. The Benevolent Society is Australia's oldest charity, and we provide social support services to vulnerable people in our community. In Mudgee we service over 80 people at any given time, including adults and children with disabilities.

We would like to request that the garden on the corner of Church and Inglis Street be redesigned to improve the street appeal and practical use of the public space as it is currently an underutilised opportunity.

We would like to request that the garden is redesigned to include sensory planting (lavender, citrus, rosemary, thyme and scented flowers) to provide a welcoming and calming experience for our clients and visitors and improve the overall street appeal.

We would also like to request that a bench seat is installed to provide seating for people with mobility issues when walking from their vehicles to our office for appointments.

We would be willing to provide volunteers to assist in a working bee to reduce council labor costs.

We would appreciate a response to this letter as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amie Carrington", followed by the date "5.4.16".

Amie Carrington  
Community Programs Manager

Celebrating  
200 Years

Registered Office  
The Benevolent Society  
Level 1, 188 Oxford Street  
Paddington NSW 2021

PO Box 171, Paddington NSW 2021  
T: 02 9339 8000  
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ABN 95 084 695 045

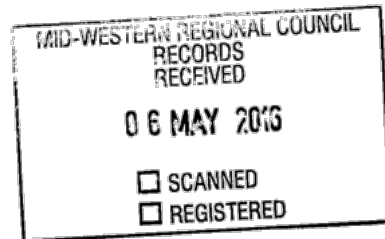
## Gulgong District Tennis Association

(AFFILIATED WITH N.S.W. TENNIS ASSOCIATION LTD., SINCE 1934)

P.O Box 356  
GULGONG N.S.W. 2852

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016

Manager  
Parks and Gardens  
Mid Western Regional Council  
Market Street  
MUDGEE N.S.W. 2850



Re: Spectator seating at Gulgong Tennis Grounds

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to our conversations with Mid-Western Regional Council General Manger (Brad Camm) and Buildings Co-ordinator (Paul Blackmore) in early 2015 and a site inspection with Councillor Paul Cavalier on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016, we would like to again raise the issue of the dangerous nature of the seating's footings.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 a representative of Tennis NSW visited our club house to discuss the implementation of a Business Plan for the Association and ways in which we could increase membership and acquire funding for the club.

She was very concerned about the Workplace Health and Safety conditions associated with the spectator seating. She indicated to us that the issue needs to be attended to as soon as possible.

After her visit on the following competition night a local community member was visiting the tennis sporting facility inquiring about membership and playing in the night competition. On leaving the area she tripped on the seating footings. Luckily she did not sustain a serious injury,

At this stage we request that a program of improvement to the spectator seating be implemented so that further accidents or injury do not occur.

We hope this situation can be rectified at the earliest possible time. For further information please call President, Michelle Gaudry on 6374 1810 or Secretary Gordon McDonnell on 6374 1339.

Yours Sincerely

Gordon McDonnell

Secretary, Gulgong District Tennis Association.

# PETITION TO EXTEND POOL CLOSING to SUNDAY May 15th

**Instructions:**

1. Insert your "full" season ticket number - including (A adult, PA pensioner adult, C child, F family, PF pensioner family)
2. Insert your **first & last** name
3. Number of adults or children attending

17-19th April

**NOTE: ALL SEASON TICKET HOLDERS MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THEIR SEASON TICKET ON REQUEST**

| SEASON TICKET NUMBER<br><small>(eg: F444)</small> | FULL NAME          | No. ADULTS | No: CHILDREN |
|---|--------------------|------------|--------------|
| 040737242   | Simone Riley.      | 2          | 2            |
| 1367-1370   | J. Mahon           | 2          | 2            |
| 97  | J WITHERIFF        | 1          |              |
| 1371  | L CARLAND L. Card  | 1          |              |
| 19  | Doc CAMPBELL       | 1          |              |
| 1123  | S. McDonald        | 1          |              |
| -   | B. McDonald        | 1          |              |
| 56  | BRIAN FITLER       | 1          |              |
| 18  | BRIAN HARRIS       | 1          |              |
| 166-170   | JESSIMAN           | 1          | 3            |
| 1417  | O Salwen           | 1          |              |
| 1585.   | Carmel Beckingham  | 1          |              |
| 273-276   | Tania Potter       | 2          | 2            |
| 6051  | BOB CLARKE         | 1          |              |
| 0174  | Phil Jacobs        | 1          |              |
| 486   | John Jerry Johnson | 1          |              |
| 0400  | Charlie Staffers   | 1          | 1            |
| 2075  | Merrill            | 1          | 1            |
| 1414/16   | Lyn Adams          | 1          | 1            |
| 1101-1105   | Faulkner           | 1          | 1            |
| 1963-1964   | McPherson          | 1          | 1            |
| 97  | J WITHERIFF        | 1          |              |
| 118   | R Gounsfar         | 1          |              |

Please

# PETITION to EXTEND POOL CLOSING to SUNDAY May 15th

**Instructions:**

1. Insert your "full" season ticket number - including (A adult, PA pensioner adult, C child, F family, PF pensioner family)
2. Insert your first & last name
3. Number of adults or children attending

**NOTE: ALL SEASON TICKET HOLDERS MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THEIR SEASON TICKET ON REQUEST**

| SEASON TICKET NUMBER<br>(eg: F444) | FULL NAME                          | No. ADULTS   | No: CHILDREN |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 66                                 | Tim                                | 1            |              |
| 19                                 | Doc                                | 1            |              |
| 308                                | Emma Best                          | 1            |              |
| 1126 AF                            | Louise Mowlem                      | 2            | 2            |
| 117                                | Jacqueline Robbins<br>GARY W Meech | 2            | 2            |
| 2068-2093                          | J. Johnson                         | 2            | 4            |
| 209                                | Chapman                            | 2            |              |
| 208                                | Sutton                             | 2            |              |
| <del>50 B</del>                    | <del>FITLER</del>                  | <del>1</del> |              |
| 1229                               | Tim                                | 1            |              |
| 89                                 | HAWOOD                             | 1            |              |
| 215                                | Cavanagh                           | 2            | 3            |
| 89                                 | CLIFFORD                           | 1            |              |
| 2345                               | HARRY                              | 1            |              |
| 373                                | Gerard Lynn                        | 2            | 2            |
| 69710/11/12 B                      | Morley                             | 2            | 2            |
| 0381                               | H Dunsall                          | 1            | 1            |
| 0382                               | H Dunsall                          |              | 1            |
| 43                                 | R Fuder                            | 1            |              |
| 46                                 | N. Quinn                           | 1            |              |
| 246                                | L B Papworth                       | 1            |              |
| 33                                 | V Smith Webb                       | 1            |              |

# PETITION to EXTEND POOL CLOSING to SUNDAY May 15th

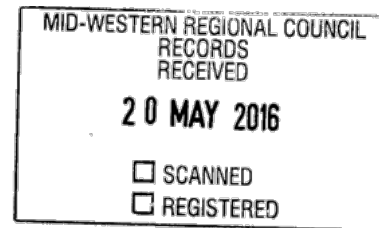
### Instructions:

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3. Number of adults or children attending

**NOTE: ALL SEASON TICKET HOLDERS MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THEIR SEASON TICKET ON REQUEST**

| SEASON<br>TICKET<br>NUMBER<br>(eg: F444) | FULL NAME          | No.<br>ADULTS | No:<br>CHILDREN |
|--|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|
|  | Georgina Camilleri | 1             | 3               |
| 121                                      | Darren Rohr        | 2             | 4               |
| 113                                      | S. Sed-Soul        | 1             |                 |
| 208                                      | Sutton             | 2             |                 |
| 209                                      | Chapman            | 2             |                 |
| 90                                       | Miles              | 1             |                 |
| 1233                                     | Jaxins             | 1             |                 |
| 1375                                     | Matt Webster       | 1             |                 |
| 229-232                                  | MCSILVANS          | 2             | 2               |
| 72                                       | Morley             | 2             | 2               |
| 1459                                     | Beckingham         |               | 1               |
| 1294                                     | CHRIS O'GRADY      | 1             |                 |
| 125-128                                  | Atkinson           |               | 1               |
| 0407-0409                                | Daniell            | 1             | 2               |
| 226038                                   | Duncan Higgs       | 1             |                 |
| 1480                                     | M. Pitt            | 2             |                 |
| 66                                       | Tim                | 1             |                 |
| 50                                       | FITTLER            | 1             |                 |
| 1237                                     | Jaxins             | 1             |                 |
| 1229                                     | Tan                | 1             |                 |
| 220                                      | Beddall            | 1             |                 |
|  | Lee Foulmer        | 1             |                 |
| 1117                                     | Josie Williams     | 0             | 1               |

20<sup>TH</sup> May 2016



Dear Mayor Des Kennedy,

I am writing to let you know my concern regarding Bishops View Rd Hargraves.

It is due to be graded this year and I am trying to have it approved to be graded an extra 1.8kms this year before the trucks grade the first 1.8kms.

I have attended the council meeting (20<sup>th</sup> April 2016) as I will continue to do so now that I feel I haven't been heard.

I have water to offer the trucks (as I do not have stock on my property in need of water) from my large dam and I have an active bore that can fill the trucks also.

**I don't believe the road is safe to travel on!!!! I cannot stress this enough simply IT IS NOT SAFE!**

I pay my rates each year and for what??? THERE ARE 5 RATEPAYERS ON THE UNMAINTAINED 1.8KMS OF BISHOPS VIEW RD. In total there are 9 Ratepayers!!! If there is an accident on this road or any road for that matter some of the investigated areas are but not limited to: speed (we can't go faster than 20kms) and the environment (this includes the weather and the road they were travelling on)!! Our terrible road is dangerous I am telling you this because something needs to be done before someone gets hurt!!!!

I have been told by Andrew Kirrens that the landholders can get together and pay for the road to be done it will cost council around \$3000.00 but if I asked a private contractor I might get it cheaper. This is great except why should I pay rates for the road and have to pay to get it fixed???? If I have to pay to get it fixed, then I don't believe I should pay my rates!!!! And if the 1.8kms of unmaintained road would cost council around \$3000.00 then over the past 5 years together with my neighbours we have paid rates of around \$20,000.00 wow how much profit council have made off us silly little ratepayers!!!! We could have had the bloody road tarred for that!!!!!!

I have listed some of the problems that this stupid council policy on unmaintained roads have taken away from myself and my family:

I am unable to foster children because my road doesn't have adequate access!!

I am unable to have a birthday party for my children due to inadequate access!!!

I am unable to rely on an ambulance getting to our house because the road has inadequate access (my partner has medical conditions)!!

I am greeted by angry tradesmen when they get flat tyres due to our rocky and inadequate access!!!

My family do not stay at our house because our road has inadequate access!!!

I am unable to rent my house out due to inadequate access!!!

I am unable to sell my house due to inadequate access!!!

We do not access the sports facilities in town due to our belief that the less we drive on the road the longer our cars will last!!!

The amount of unnecessary money spent on our cars due to the terrible road we have to drive on!!!

I have to ensure my 5-year-old daughter is ready to leave 25 mins earlier than necessary to catch the school bus!!

We have put up with this for 5 years because I was told 5 years ago that council will do nothing because there are not enough ratepayers on the road!!! WELL NOW THERE IS 5 RATEPAYERS ON BISHOPS VIEW'S UNMAINTAINED 1.8KMS AND PLEANTY OF FLAT TYRES, BROKEN STEERING ARMS, BALL JOINT REPLACEMENTS AND THE LIST GOES ON.

The safety of my family is paramount this should be the same for your policy (which was written back in the 1900's)!!!!

I can't believe I have had to chase the council for information and constantly follow-up on this matter when it should be a no brainer the ratepayers pay more than enough every year to cover the cost of the road (don't forget it is only graded every 2 years)!!!!!!!!!!!!!! And the road IS NOT SAFE!!!!.

Andrew Kirrens also informed me that P & J Bullock (my neighbours) only have a weekender on their property and this might not be sufficient enough for council to consider them as No #5 ratepayers on Bishops View Rd (not a permanent residence) – Well what a joke I might just be a simple rate and tax payer but I am definitely not an idiot!!!! P & J Bullock pay the same rates whether they live there 1 day a year or permanently! I won't have the wool pulled over my eyes.

This matter is URGENT and I expect it to be treated like that.

Thank you,



Melissa Rivett

02 6373 8521



## BUNNAMAGOO ESTATE WINES

20/5/2016

Dear Daryl

I write this letter to request that consideration is made in relation to the taring of Tinja Lane from the access of Craigmores Rd to the intersection with Putta Bucca Rd.

The increased flow of traffic on Tinja lane that goes to both Lowes wines and Walter wines has had an impact on our grapes grown along this roadway.

The increased dust has had an impact on vine health due to dust settling on the surface area of the leaf is preventing photosynthesis and reducing the effectiveness of chemicals required to protect the vines through the growing season.

Due to the likelihood that visitation will increase as the years go by this problem will only increase.

Your consideration in regard to this matter would be welcome.

Yours Faithfully

Stuart Hughes

General Manager

Bunnamagoo wines.



*A member of the Paspaley group of companies*

Bunnamagoo Estate Wines, Rockley NSW 2795 Australia

Telephone 1300 304 707 Fax +61 2 6377 5231 Email: [bunnamagoowines@paspaley.com.au](mailto:bunnamagoowines@paspaley.com.au) [www.bunnamagoowines.com.au](http://www.bunnamagoowines.com.au)

A Division of Paspaley Pearls Properties Pty Ltd ABN 52 009 624 408



Dear Sir

I write this letter requesting that serious consideration be given to the upgrade of Tinja Lane from the access of Craigmoor Rd to the connection with Putta Bucca Rd with Bitumen.

I believe the following reasons justify this course of action.

Lowe Wines receives considerable visitation over the 7 days the winery and cellar door is open. We estimate 100 car a day on Saturday and 50 cars on Sunday and during the week 20 cars per day.

The restaurant adjacent has additional heavy visitation with Taxis and private vehicles 30 per day on weekends and 10 cars per day the Monday and Friday when they are open.

In my roles as President NSW WIA and Vice President Winemakers Federation Australia, I conduct interviews to Camera and have representation from other regions. The unsealed road and the regular poor state of it, derives frequent comment.

Modern road vehicles with low profile tyres are unsuitable for unsealed roads and I have received many calls and 1 trip advisor review stating that with 2 broken tyres it was cheaper not to visit Lowe wines but to buy the wine on line.

Lowe Wines is a platinum sponsor of the Tourist office and for this we receive regular famils from tourist organisations, operators and journalists.

The road is regularly frequented by tourists and business travellers from Dubbo travelling to Sydney arriving on Putta Bucca road, or the large traffic that comes from Craigmoor end after Day on the green, 1000 vehicles as well as Mud fest and Polo at Bunnamagoo.

Bus groups are unwilling to bring customers to Lowe wines unless specifically requested.

There is another cellar door at Walter wines on Tinja Lane, which has increased traffic plus all the existing residences.

Existing staff at Lowe wines have usually 10 vehicles that travel the unsealed road daily, and all request that something needs to be done to seal the road due to excessive wear and tear on vehicles.

It is likely that visitation will increase by at least 20% this calendar year as the number of visitors that increased in 2015 was 25%

Yours Faithfully

David Lowe

CEO Lowe Wines

Tinja Lane (PO Box 21) Mudgee NSW 2850 Australia  
ph; +61 2 6372 0800 fax; +61 2 6372 0811  
web; www.lowewine.com.au email; sales@lowewine.com.au  
ABN 55 335 748 689

**From:** [John Reynolds](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sealing Tinja Lane  
**Date:** Friday, 20 May 2016 2:14:39 PM

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Dear Sirs.

I have an interest in lots 171 and 172 Tinja Lane and for the most part it is a gravel road.

The road usage has increased with tourist traffic to the two wineries, overnight stays and general visitor rubbernecking apart from those who live along there.

Some sections are extremely rough and dusty and thereby adding to existing road dangers.

I urge the councillors to support the sealing of this virtual in town road.

John Reynolds.

**Please note this e-mail is checked periodically, a response will be sent within 24hrs, if this is urgent or an order please call**

**John Reynolds** FCA FGIA FCIS MSAA

Joint Managing Director, Reynolds Equities | Authorised Representative: 223775

Level 5, 234 George St, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 4237 Sydney 2001

Email: [john.reynolds@morgans.com.au](mailto:john.reynolds@morgans.com.au)

Direct: 02 9373 4452 | [morgans.com.au/reynoldsequities](http://morgans.com.au/reynoldsequities)

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**From:** [veronicamjmillier@yahoo.com.au](mailto:veronicamjmillier@yahoo.com.au)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Attention - Mr Brad Cam, General Manager, submission re: Draft Operational Plan 2016/2017  
**Date:** Friday, 20 May 2016 12:27:42 PM

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Dear Mr Cam

Re: Draft Operational Plan 2016/2017

I write regarding the above Draft Operational Plan for the next financial year. As a parent of two children at Mudgee Public School I wish to raise my concerns about plans to continue to charge schools for use of sports fields and amenities, and to introduce a charge for swimming pools.

As you may be aware, Mudgee Public School has: a high number of students who come from a low socioeconomic background; a high number of children with additional support needs ( special needs); a high enrolment compared to other Mudgee schools of Aboriginal students.

As such, adding further costs for schools to provide opportunities for these students to participate in sports may add a further cost burden for some families who cannot afford it. Therefore, these children may miss out on the chance to participate and belong in their community. For some students, school sports provides their only opportunity to participate in sport.

I ask you to consider removing or waiving the hire cost for sporting fields, amenities and swimming pools for Mudgee Public School and indeed all schools in the Midwestern Local Government Area. Midwestern Regional Council can consider this to be a worthy investment in the equitable and inclusive education and provision of sporting opportunity for all children in the community, so that every child is given a fair go to join in and do their best, regardless of their family's circumstances.

Yours sincerely

Veronica Miller

Ph: 0400 284 755

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**From:** [cheree warnock](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Fee charges  
**Date:** Friday, 20 May 2016 7:14:28 AM

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To whom it may concern

Hi

My child attends Mudgee public school & have been informed that you are thinking about bringing in Fees to charge for sports fields and swimming pool, please consider not doing this as it makes it more expensive for parents to have their children in sports and swimming. .

Please dont let this happen as parents pay enough. Also if brought in parents will have to stop letting children play sport which we All know children need to be active and should all be able to have the opportunity to learn to swim..

Thank you for your time. .

Thanks cheree

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Mid-Western Regional Council

PO Box 156,

Mudgee 2850

18<sup>th</sup> May 2016



Dear councillors,

In NSW, schools are tasked with providing for the wellbeing of students with a special emphasis on physical wellbeing. In part, this has been a response to what some describe as an “obesity” crisis amongst Australian youth and the recognised cost such a crisis poses to this nation in the future. While schools are acknowledged as being in an excellent position to curb the worst of this crisis, our political masters also realise that what they demand of us cannot be achieved in isolation. They recognise that for schools to be successful, they must be “supported by the effective use of school, system and community expertise and resources” (the emphasis is mine). They also recognise that students educated in such an environment are more likely to “build positive relationships and actively contribute to the school, the community and the society in which they live” (again, the emphasis is mine).

At Mudgee High, we appreciate the support we receive from Mid-Western Regional Council through things as diverse as Rainbow Day, work experience opportunities and day excursions. We very much appreciate the access we have to the various community facilities maintained by the Council. We also recognise that those facilities are provided through the rates paid by the council’s rates payers.

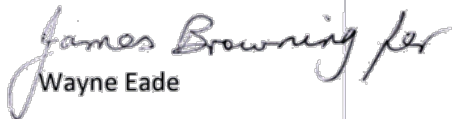
It is worth noting too that Mudgee’s schools pay rates, the parents of the students who attend the various schools pay rates, whether indirectly through rental or directly as home and business owners within the region.

Levying additional costs for the use of what are public facilities seemingly already paid for through rates will impact significantly on the many programs schools are obliged to offer that are so very reliant on goodwill. The only real flexibility schools have in their budgets relates entirely to faculties. Gas, electricity, and water bills are inflexible and must be paid. Salaries must be paid. Casual relief for sick colleagues must be paid. Our flexible funds provide things like textbooks, feed for animals in our agriculture department, the odd microscope or two in the sciences, the slow replacement of blackboards with interactive whiteboards. A blow-out in one inflexible area impacts directly on the things that most think are the essentials; the resources with which we teach the children in our care.

We could attempt to recoup our losses through a levy on parents, but the likelihood of success is low at best. Even now we are lucky to recoup 40% of what we spend on consumables in subjects students elect to do even when they know they come at a cost; subjects like wood technology metal technology and home economics.

On behalf of the students, their parents, and the staff of Mudgee High School, I would ask that you revisit the decision to levy charges on the schools of this great town of ours to use the sporting facilities for which they have already paid for the reasons given above.

Yours,

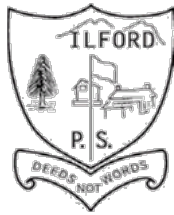


Wayne Eade

Principal

Mudgee High





## **ILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL**

6943 Castlereagh Highway  
Ilford NSW 2850

ph: (02) 63588507 mob: 0439729694 Fax: (02) 63588524

<http://www.ilford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Email: [ilford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ilford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Principal: Ian Stewart SAM: Felicity Cresswell

Dear Sir / Madam,

I write to express my concern regarding the letter received dated 2 May 2016 in relation to the proposed fees and charges for schools to access sporting facilities.

There are a number of reasons why we feel this approach to be unacceptable.

We feel that the council should be making every possible attempt to partner with schools to ensure good community involvement and above all in this case, healthy active citizens. If additional fees are introduced this costing will have to be passed on to families. The result is additional strain on family finances and possibly meaning some students not engaging with sporting events.

Schools are a contributor to community involvement and participation. Our efforts strengthen communities use and their desire to join sporting teams and access council facilities, having a positive impact on the community.

I strongly urge you to reconsider imposing these fees and continue to support and work in partnership with schools.

Sincerely,

Ian Stewart  
Principal



Catholic Education Office  
DIOCESE OF BATHURST

20 May 2016

The General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156  
MUDGEES NSW 2850

Dear Mr Cam,

Re: Draft Council Operational Plan 2016/17 – Fees and Charges

I offer my comments in relation to the above as the Executive Director of Schools in the Diocese of Bathurst. In doing so, I support the submission of St Matthew's Catholic School, Mudgee in having Council's proposals for fees and charges reconsidered.

The fees and charges in the Draft Plan will have a significant impact on the 450 families in the St Matthew's School Community. Some of these families have a number of children at the school. The proposal will be especially onerous on families where their children will be engaged in a number of physical activities and sports throughout the year.

These new costs will inevitably be borne on families adding to the pressures on the cost of education in their family budget. This will impact on low income families in the Mudgee LGA in particular.

Schools are supported financially by State and Federal Governments. Local Government's contribution to this valuable endeavour is well recognised through rating exemptions, especially since Government and Catholic Schools are all non-profit entities.

All schools add value to neighbourhoods and add significantly to the social, cultural and economic life of the community.

Whilst we understand the pressures Council faces from various financial review processes, we urge you to seriously reconsider your draft proposal.

Yours Sincerely

Jenny Allen  
Executive Director of Schools



**Western School Sports Association**  
Lot 101 Arthur Street, PO Box 863, DUBBO, 2830  
Phone: 6841 3866 or 6841 3867 Fax: 6841 3870  
Mobile: 0418 656 410 ABN: 58 831 872 186



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this letter to you as I have recently been informed about the impending sporting facility charge that you and your councillors are about to impose on the schools within the region.

As the Western Region Schools Sports Coordination Officer I oversee all primary and secondary schools sports within the region. Our aim is to have as many children involved with sport as possible but with these charges in mind I can see participation numbers dwindling due to the financial constraints that schools will have to place on families as they will not be able to absorb these extra costs to run sports themselves.

These ground and facility hire fees that your council are asking schools to pay will have a knock-on effect with state sporting knockout competitions. If schools are asked to pay for the exclusive hire of grounds, school principals and executives will start to prioritise and select which competitions their schools have realistic chances of progressing far in due to the financial burden placed on them with these fees. Student participation in those sports of a lesser note will almost stop, and region wide knock-out competitions in this area will diminish. Representative school sport is the largest gifted and talented program offered in public education and I would hate to see this program diminished due to financial restrictions.

In public education we believe in the core values of equity, cooperation and participation. We believe in providing equal opportunities for all schools and students despite their differing socio-economic circumstances. We also value cooperation where different sectors of our community to work together to achieve common goals of participation.

With Western Region hosting and bidding to host primary and secondary schools state carnivals, we are always looking for areas and regions that have ample sporting facilities, accommodation options and councils that are willing to support sport in our vast region. City councils in our region have waived their fees for the preparation of sporting grounds knowing of the tourism dollar that will be spent by travelling families over the week of a carnival in the city. If Mid-West Regional





**Western School Sports Association**  
Lot 101 Arthur Street, PO Box 863, DUBBO, 2830  
Phone: 6841 3866 or 6841 3867 Fax: 6841 3870  
Mobile: 0418 656 410 ABN: 58 831 872 186



Council imposes this ground hire fee, Western School Sports will almost certainly look elsewhere to host their carnivals.

The consequences of this decision will be far reaching and I hope the physical, social, mental and emotional effects on the public education students in western region are taken into consideration and students are not disadvantaged. I hope this issue is discussed in further detail and the charges removed from consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'T. Reynolds'.

**Trent Reynolds**

Sports Coordination Officer  
Western School Sports Association  
Arthur St  
Dubbo 2830  
02 6841 3866 0418 656 410  
[trent.reynolds@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:trent.reynolds@det.nsw.edu.au)

**From:** [Wilson, Joel](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Attn: General Manager Re 2016/17 Draft Operational Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, 19 May 2016 9:36:20 AM

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Brad Cam  
General Manager  
Mid Western Regional Council  
19/05/2016

Re: 2016/17 Draft Council Operational Plan – Fees and Charges

Dear Sir,

Mudgee has a host of wonderful sporting venues, due to the foresight and planning of council, which is to be commended. These venues make Mudgee a desirable location for a variety of sporting activities, from clubs matches, to large carnivals, to school sport.

I am writing to object to the proposal to charge schools fees for using council sporting fields. This is a policy which will raise short-term revenue but affect the long term future of sport in our community.

**School sport is an integral part of the curriculum, and should be free for all students to participate, regardless of parental income.**

Sport and physical education are an important part of a child's growth and development. A user-pays mentality in regards to sanctioned school sport will result in children not playing school sport, as parents will need to forgo the added expense of sport, in order to provide other necessities for their children. This will result in children being unable to complete mandatory physical education requirements as set out in the NSW Syllabus. To charge fees to children to participate in this mandatory aspect of the curriculum, and vital part of childhood, is short sighted and not in the long term interests of the community.

**School sport supports our local economy.**

Various school competitions, such as the PSSA knockout, bring children, teachers and parents from surrounding areas to Mudgee. These visitors play their sport, fill up their car, have lunch, go shopping and add to the local economy. Charging schools from outside the region for the 'privilege' of playing in Mudgee fails to acknowledge the enormous benefits the local economy receives from hosting many school sporting fixtures.

In addition, if fees are being charged, schools will have to limit the number of sports offered to children, purely on a financial basis. This would not only deprive children of the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports (which also has positive flow on effects for local sporting clubs), but will negatively affect the local economy with a reduction in the number of inter-school matches.

**School communities and councils should work together.**

In my roles with school sport I have dealt with a number of regional NSW councils to organise interschool matches and gala days. Not once in 10 years has a council charged me for the use of sporting facilities in a school capacity.

And this is because, in the majority of cases, council does nothing over-and-above their normal obligations when schools use council fields. Schools organise equipment, referees, shelter, etc., and provide their own insurance and first aid. Are schools paying for the privilege of 'booking' a field? To what end does this serve? Schools and councils need to work together to provide opportunities to all children, not just those who can afford it.

Parents and schools already pay rates to council on the expectation that services are to be provided, and one of those services is the provision of parklands and sporting facilities. In addition, parents pay registration fees for their child to play weekend sport. To charge parents and school communities to again use these facilities is triple-dipping, and a cost that school communities cannot afford.

Put bluntly, this policy is short-sighted and seems to be a cash grab from a section of the community that relies on using local sporting fields to deliver opportunities and experiences to local children. This will have negative effects on sports offered at local schools, on opportunities for young sportspeople to develop to their potential, and on the local community in a reduction of inter-school sport.

This will hurt the relationship between school communities and our local council. We all need to be working together so the next generation are healthy and active. With council's recent promotion of fitness in the region, it seems that discouraging sport (through an extra fee) is the opposite of council's stated objectives.

I urge council to reconsider this determination, and continue to allow schools the use of council sporting facilities, to benefit our children, our local economy, and our community for years to come.

Yours Sincerely,

Joel Wilson  
Assistant Principal, Cudgegong Valley Public School  
Western School Sports Australian Football Convenor  
NSW Teachers Federation Councillor

**Joel Wilson**  
**Assistant Principal**  
**Cudgegong Valley Public School**  
**WSSA Primary AFL Convenor**

[Ph 02 6372 3466](tel:0263723466) | [Fax 6372 6314](tel:0263726314)

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**St Matthews Catholic School K-12**  
**Mudgee**

4 Lewis Street, Mudgee NSW 2850; PO Box 1357, Mudgee NSW 2850  
Telephone: (02) 6372 1742; Facsimile: (02) 6372 1423

School website: [www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au) Email: [stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au)

16<sup>th</sup> May, 2016

Mr Brad Cam  
General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156  
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Dear Mr Cam,

**SUBJECT: DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2016/17 – FEES AND CHARGES**

We are writing on behalf of the staff and community of St Matthews Catholic School to express our concerns relating to Mid-Western Regional Council's Draft Operational Plan 2016/2017. The specific objection relates to the proposal to charge school groups for usage of swimming pool, council parks and sporting grounds as part of this above plan.

The current enrolment of St Matthews Catholic School is over 750 students, this equates to some 450 families. These are families who are part of the Mid-Western Regional Council area and are ratepayers. They are also young families who have children playing within local sporting organisations, some with multiple children who can play on average four sports per year. With this in mind, the council are already, through rates and sports council fees, charging these families for the use and maintenance of the sporting facilities. To propose a further fee at a school level, will see our families and other families in our community being charged three times for the use of these amenities.

If these fees were to be charged, our school would have no choice but to pass these costs onto families. Passing this expense on to families is an added pressure to the cost of education – especially for families facing financial hardship. Currently our school relies on fundraising by our Parents & Friends Association to provide facilities and services that are in excess of current school budgets as the funding that is received is insufficient to cover all costs involved. Having students from any school miss out on school-based physical education activities because their families cannot afford it, we feel is unacceptable.

The schools within the region are growing at a substantial rate as is the population of the region. This has a direct impact on the space that schools have to conduct sport and physical education classes. The use of these council grounds are essential for the running of such activities. Schools have the need to use these grounds as they don't have a choice as their current space is not large enough or there is a requirement for the use of specific fields for the delivery of the lesson; these include special areas such as netball courts, cricket pitches and softball diamonds. With physical education being a syllabus requirement for all schools, this plan will impinge on the ability of schools to deliver the correct syllabus to our students.

Over the past number of years schools and school sporting organisations have hosted a variety of region and state competitions in our town bringing large numbers of competitors and their families to our town. These events have included the Polding Touch trials (2014-15) which saw some 150 families visit our town over two days each year and the NSWPSA Rugby championships (2016), which will see over 250 participants and their families in Mudgee over 4 days. Events such as this expose our town and the wonderful area it is to visit to a wide range of people. With this in mind the impact to the local economy and the benefits events such as these can only help enhance council funds. Schools and regions, as a result, may be in the position that they are unable to bid for such events as any cost involved in the hosting these events will have a direct impact on participants and therefore will see a decline in the number of these events held by our schools.

---

***Truth and Excellence will Prevail***



**St Matthews Catholic School K-12**  
**Mudgee**

4 Lewis Street, Mudgee NSW 2850; PO Box 1357, Mudgee NSW 2850  
Telephone: (02) 6372 1742; Facsimile: (02) 6372 1423

School website: [www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au) Email: [stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au)

Data released as late as last week by the Australian Bureau of Statistics show the rise of obesity levels of children between the ages of 2-17. The number of children now in the obese category stands at 25%, 1 in 4 children in this age bracket are now considered as being obese. This number is even higher for those children who live in rural and remote communities. Also, this data shows that children from low socio-economic backgrounds have poorer diets and exercise less and this further compounds the number. These students from this demographic are less likely to be in a position to pay for access to sporting activities and grounds and the long term effect of this will only see a rise in these figures.

Furthermore, to charge students to attend 'learn to swim' programs will also have a major impact on a school's ability to fulfil curriculum areas. For many students, who live out of town, their only time spent at the local swimming pool is to attend learn to swim, or, basic lifesaving lessons during school time. In 2015, 58 people aged 0-24 died after drowning, 35 of these were aged between 0-14. This statistic is an alarming one as most of these deaths occurred in household swimming pools. Programs such as these are also an important election issue at the moment with both sides of government putting large sums of money towards such programs.

Lastly, schools ability to access council grounds will only contribute to a fitter and healthier community. This is directly related to one of the strategies (1.1.3. Support networks, programs and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles) outlined in the Draft Operational Plan, which specifically identifies that council aims to "promote and support programs aimed at increasing community health and wellbeing". Charging schools to use our region's parks and sporting fields seems to contradict this strategy by threatening to limit physical activity in our schools.

Our school strives to provide a strong program of physical activity for our students and usage of council grounds allows delivery of a much more effective curriculum. There is careful budgeting to ensure the school's educational resources are used to the fullest to enhance teaching and learning for students. The schools ability to find the extra money to pay council levies for usage of sports grounds is not possible, nor feasible, as this will only increase the cost of fees that will be charged to our school parents, your ratepayers.

We as a school appeal to council that you reconsider this proposal and make access to sporting fields, parks and swimming pools accessible to all students within our community. As a school we believe that this access and the effect that it will have for our students will only be a positive one.

Your sincerely,



Jason Hanrahan  
Principal



Barry Neaverson-Smith  
Primary Sport Coordinator



Jacinda Spicer  
PDHPE/Sports Coordinator

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***Truth and Excellence will Prevail***

**MUDGEE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

44 Perry Street  
MUDGEE NSW 2850  
[www.mudgeepublic.com.au](http://www.mudgeepublic.com.au)

Phone: 02 6372 2036  
Fax: 02 6372 6316  
email: [mudgee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mudgee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

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20 May 2016

Mr Brad Cam  
The General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156  
Mudgee NSW 2850

Dear Mr Cam,

I write to express the concern of Mudgee Public School in relation to the Draft Council Operational Plan 2016/17 – Fees and Charges. In a letter from Mr Simon Jones, Director, Community, he has informed of the proposal to charge local schools for the use of local sporting fields, parks and swimming pools;

Currently our school uses the Mudgee swimming pool to teach our students to swim and conduct our annual swimming carnival. We use local playing fields to train and play in competitive matches and for weekly sport activities. Mudgee Public also pays a considerable amount of money to the Mid-Western Council each year for rate charges.

The Draft Council Operational Plan 2016/17 indicates a cost for grounds of \$154 for use by schools and \$158 for the use of the swimming pool for a swimming carnival. It is indicated in the letter that charges would be at a subsidised rate to schools though there is no indication of what this subsidised rate would be.

As schools do not receive funding for the proposed charges, any charges would be directly passed onto students who participate in sporting activities. The end result here would be a reduction in student participation in physical activity as not all families can afford payment for such expenses. When our school levies charges for any external activity or service, owing to the socio economic status of our families, many students do not pay and therefore, do not participate. Whilst the school supports many families in subsidising access to such activities, many can still not afford to participate.

At a time when there is greater emphasis on schools to keep students active, the proposed charges will result in an overall decline in student sporting activities. Schools, through their teaching of physical education and sport, play an active role in exposing students to a wide variety of sporting opportunities. In turn, many students join local sporting clubs to continue their enjoyment and active participation in sport. The Council then benefits through the sport council levies weekend junior sport participants pay,

Mudgee Public Schools is growing at a substantial rate, currently we educate 623 students. Whilst our school does possess playing fields, these are not large enough or designed for competitive sports. Historically schools have not been provided with such facilities as local grounds were available free of charge. Changing this relationship, given the roles school have in encouraging children to take up sport, seems unfair.

At a time when there are increasing demands on schools to meet the challenges of modern society, school funding is under greater pressure than ever. Our school relies on its P&C to raise funds to provide many basic provisions that are not covered from other government allocations. Hence any further charges to schools will be passed onto the families who attend Mudgee Public.

Finally the Draft Operational Plan contains a strategy to *Support networks, programs and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyle* on page 13 of the Operational Plan. Given the proposed charges, less Mudgee school students will be encouraged into physical activity. This proposal also appears as a direct contradiction of this strategy. Rather, both local schools and the Mid-Western Council should be working together to encourage our youth to make and sustain healthy lifestyle choices.



Alan Kerr  
Principal

PO Box 1100  
Mudgee NSW 2850

11 May 2016

General Manager  
Mid Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156  
Mudgee NSW 2850

RE: SUBMISSION TO OPERATIONAL PLAN 2016/17



Dear Brad,

I am writing on behalf and as Chair of the Cultural Development Committee and provide our submission to Council's Operational Plan 2016/17. It is disappointing that no funds have been made available within the budget for the development of a regional gallery facility, despite ongoing discussion with Council on this issue and the fact that funds had previously been listed for this in future operational plans.

For context, the Cultural Development Committee was established as one of the recommendations from Council's own Cultural Plan which was endorsed in 2006. The other two major recommendations that were endorsed within this Plan were the establishment of a regional gallery and the introduction of cultural development staff within Council. A decade later and essentially no progress has been made on the recommendations from this endorsed Cultural Plan.

It is clear that Council recognises the potential and value of sporting tourism within the region. The Cultural Development Committee would argue that the same potential exists for our creative industries and the economic benefits that cultural tourism brings to our region.

The Cultural Development Committee implores Council to consider again allocating a budget for the development of a regional gallery within the next four year cycle. This would show a level of commitment to the project that would also provide greater weight to any grant applications that Council may be looking to apply for. The allocation for funds for dedicated cultural development staff is also vital to the progression of creative industries in the Mid-Western Region to be able to start to compete with the majority of local government areas in the central west.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Scott Etherington". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Scott Etherington  
Chair  
Cultural Development Committee  
Mid-Western Regional Council

**M.R. & D.S. Clapham**  
**“Hazelbrook”**  
**Perrams Road**  
**Ilford NSW 2850**

14 May 2016  
Mr Brad Cam  
General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC)  
PO Box 156  
MUDGEES NSW 2850  
**Draft Delivery Program 2016/17 Submission**

Dear Brad,

We wish to express our strong objection to council’s proposal to yet again increase the farmland rate despite the fact that it is currently two thirds to double that of adjoining councils and compounding every year.

It is a major and excessive cost to our farming business representing 4% of gross income. No other business is taxed annually by local government to the extent that farmers are because our land makes up the majority of our asset unlike any other business. Surely farmers in MWRC should be rated at a much lower percentage because of this fact as indeed they are in other council areas.

MWRC convened a Rate Reference Group with representatives from all rated categories, which recommended a reduction in Farmland rates by 10% over five years. Council appears to have completely ignored their recommendation without any logical explanation or reason. **Why?**

Such a change would have represented an incremental improvement and step towards a more equitable rating structure.

MWRC should take into account the long term cumulative and compounding effect of continuing to drive up farmland rates, the disincentive it provides to investment in farmland in MWRC and the impact this has on a farmer’s bottom line.

Why are farmers paying more than double the rates of the coal mining industry when our combined production in dollar terms is only 5% of theirs?

We strongly request council reconsider and amend its rating structure for the coming year to reflect a more equitable and fair rating structure and lessen the rate burden on farmers.

Yours sincerely

Mitchell & Daryl Clapham  
CC Deputy Premier  
Minister for Local Government

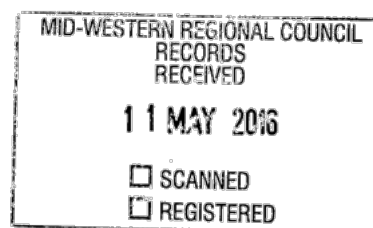
## ATHLONE (CRUDINE) PTY LTD

ATF The Heath Family Trust  
ACN 117 159 207  
ABN 86 218 416 592

Correspondence to: A.L. & L.G. Heath  
"Athlone",  
1368 Crudine Road,  
CRUDINE NSW 2795  
Ph/Fax 0263588484  
Email: 1368crudine@gmail.com

11<sup>th</sup> May, 2016

Mr. Brad Cam,  
General Manager,  
Mid-Western Regional Council,  
P.O. Box 156,  
MUDGEE. 2850



Dear Sir,

In recent times Mid-Western Regional Council convened a Rate Reference Group which recommended a reduction in Farmland rates by 10% over five years. I am perplexed as to why Council has chosen to completely ignore the findings of its own reference group without any apparent reason. I would like to see this addressed by Council and those reasons made public so the community can move forward knowing why the recommendations of the reference group was ignored.

I am also disappointed that Council and some Councillors appear to ignore the fact that rural rating in Mid-Western Regional Council is 50%-100% higher than neighbouring councils within the Local Government region, whilst business, residential and mining rates are far less. High yielding coal mines with good producing capacity pay significantly less than farmland.

My property boundary is the boundary between Mid-Western Regional Council and Bathurst Council. On one side of the fence line the same class of land as that on the Mid-Western Regional Council side is rated 50% lower on the Bathurst Council side. As it stands at present farmland rating equates to 14% of ratepayers paying 26% of the total rate revenue. I consider the current rating structure represents an unfair and disproportionate burden on farmland ratepayers.

In a recent radio interview our Mayor stated that farmers might have to pay more rates if they want better roads. I monitor Bathurst Council road maintenance on their section of the Crudine Road and find that it is of a higher standard than that of the Mid-Western Regional Council.

Our Crudine road is a School Bus route and according to Council's service level should be graded every twelve months. However, this time frame gets extended repeatedly and according to Council's outdoor staff the last grade was not considered a full maintenance grade. Because of this, the grade width was reduced allowing vegetation to grow which forces the drainage into vehicle wheel tracks. This creates erosion and allows surface material to be washed off the road surface which damages tyres and transmission pans.

As a rural ratepayer of Mid-Western Regional Council I am very disappointed in Council's failure to deliver adequate road maintenance and also their failure to listen to and consider the recommendations from their own appointed rate reference group.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Heath

Cc Troy Grant MP  
Hon. Paul Toole MP



### **Draft Operational Plan/Delivery Program 2016 -17 Rates Increase**

Glencore Coal, represented by Ulan Coal Mines Limited (UCML) formally submit this document in relation to the Mid-Western Regional Council 2016/17 Draft Operational Plan/Delivery Program.

We would like to put on record that UCML understand the importance of the contribution to the upkeep and upgrade of local infrastructure that rates play, and that we have an obligation to contribute to the region as ratepayers just like every other landholder.

As a price-taker, businesses in the coal mining industry are currently experiencing acute economic pressures. In addressing these pressures, we respond by putting the microscope over cost structures to identify every efficiency measure, and then plan the pursuit of those efficiency gains.

This is no different to any other rateable category, as primary producers would implement cost reduction and efficiency improvement strategies during periods of low returns and slim margins to maintain their livelihood.

Most rateable categories in the MWRC LGA would be suffering from external pressures on revenue and margins, which in turn nullifies any argument for an "ability to pay" split for any rates distribution decisions.

Furthermore, notwithstanding the MWRC's ability to rely on IPART's independent recommendations for rates increases, Councillors need to provide reasonable justification for any increase in rates.

Just as the MWRC LGA ratepayers focus on efficiencies, we implore Council to similarly focus its energies in stemming what seems to be relentless increasing costs at a time when any increases are prohibitive on sustaining business. Council ought to also consider efficiency and business improvement initiatives to avoid or at least minimise any rates increases.

In terms of rates distribution, any final rate increase **must** be applied equally across each of the rating categories.

We will support a rates increase provided that:

- the allocation is performed on an equal basis across each category
- council implements efficiency and business improvement initiatives across its range of services in order to optimise service delivery
- it is in line with IPART recommendations

In addition, we remind Council that our mines contribute much more to this region than just council rates with major contributions to the Ulan Road Strategy, voluntary planning agreements, local community initiatives and Councils' share of levies and royalties collected by governments from mining. These contributions provide the community with a benefit without being recorded as a rateable contribution. UCML have contributed approximately \$10M since 2011, demonstrating our significant commitment to the Mid-West Regional Council LGA.



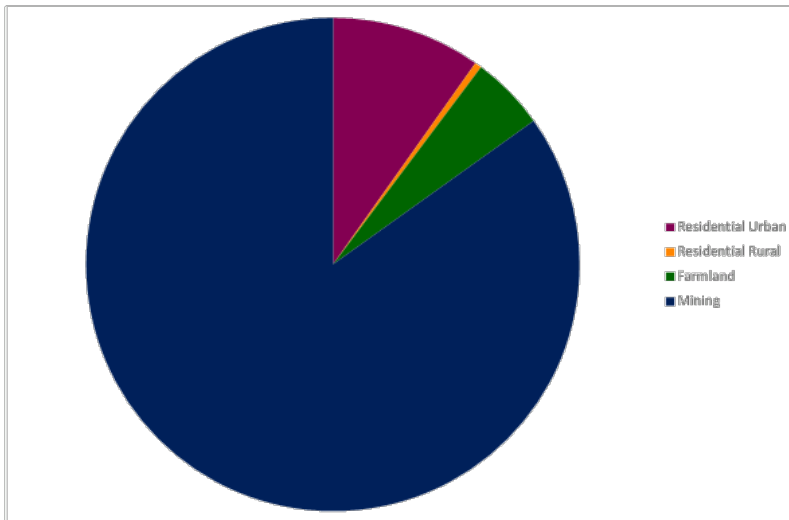
In response to the two questions on the evening of the Open Forum:

Question 1

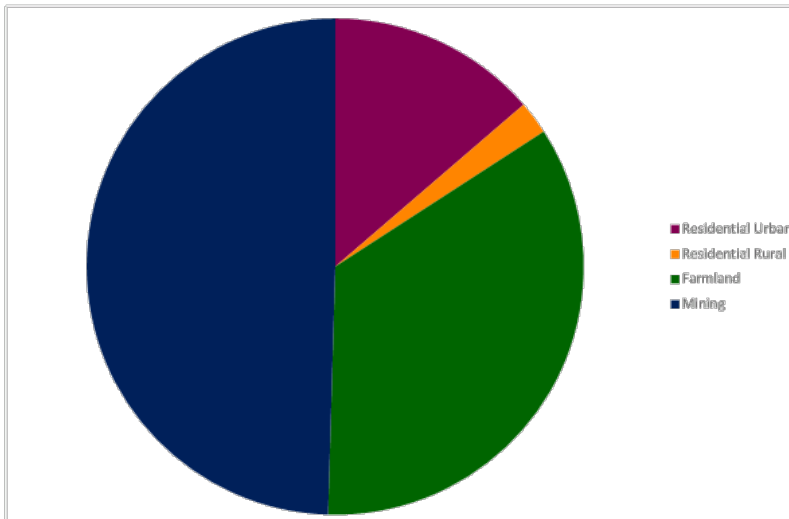
From the rates reference group meeting, are you aware that you stood to benefit from the reduction in farming land rates?

Answer: This is understood, but farmland is not our only rateable landholding. We hold land across all categories and as such support an equitable distribution of any rates increase.

Below is a breakdown of rates payable by category for UCML:



Below is a breakdown of rateable value by category for UCML:



Question 2

Due to mining, farming families that trade with each other are diminishing?

Answer: UCML are not informed to comment on the demographics of the region, the provision of offset land was required as part of the project approval, more than 80 percent of the farming land purchased is re-leased to the same farming families that operated there and still operates as farmland.

In conclusion, we appeal to Council to implement a solution that is equitable, and reduced to the absolute minimum necessary, by reviewing opportunities to reduce cost, whilst sharing the load evenly across all ratepayers.

87 Baker's Lane

Linburn

Via MUDGEES NSW 2850

6<sup>th</sup> May, 2016

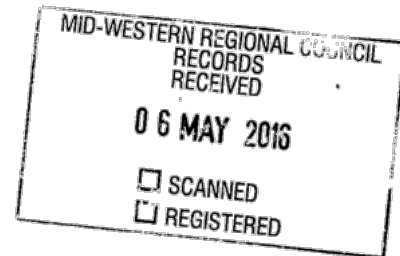
Mr Brad Cam

General Manager

Mid-Western Regional Council

PO Box 156

MUDGEES NSW 2850



Dear Brad,

As you may have by now realised, many farmers and graziers in the Mudgee District are very disappointed with the Mid-Western Regional Council's apparent disregard of their concerns about the rating system adopted by your Council.

As a result of the Public Meeting held last night at The Stables at which there was a notable lack of Council staff and disinterested Councillors, the feeling of the Meeting was that more pressure must be brought to bear on Mid-Western Regional Council to review its stance on the rating system which at this time appears very detrimental to the farming community in comparison to those systems adopted by neighbouring Shires. As I understand the situation at present, our farmland rates are between 50% to 100% dearer than adjoining Councils and 25% dearer than other comparable councils in the Division of Local Governments Comparative analysis, while business, residential and mining rates are significantly less and I am at a loss to know why this can be the case.

The public has been led to believe that farmers must contribute to the cost of the Shire's many public facilities such as pools and roads (which are often funded by other means) and surely they are doing just that when 14% (farmers) are paying 26% of the total rates!

In the Mid-Western Regional Council we have the luxury of having the mining sector part of our make-up which is very good for the economy of the area but it must be acknowledged that the Coal mining industry pays half the total rates that farmland ratepayers contribute yet has twenty times the economic capacity. Can your executive explain how the coalmining industry in Lithgow Council area pays similar total rates to that paid in Mid-Western Regional


Council yet has less than a third of the capacity? In addition what other Council rates coal mining as low as your Council? We need answers to these questions.

Mudgee District has always in the past had a very strong agricultural base and there are still many dedicated people who are willing to produce quality products for the local and overseas markets but this is becoming harder and harder with increasing costs which are not keeping pace with the payments received for their produce.

I am very disappointed that the recommendations from the farming sector that were put forward by representatives on the Rates Review Committee convened by your Council were not satisfactorily dealt with and as a result we feel that Council has completely ignored their recommendations and have not been given any substantive reason for doing so.

It would be very much appreciated if you could reply to this letter and give me satisfactory answers to my many concerns regarding this matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joyce Purtle', written in a cursive style.

(Mrs) Joyce Purtle.



**Mudgee District Branch  
NSW Farmers Association  
C/- "Hazelbrook" Perrams Rd  
ILFORD NSW 2850**

Mr Brad Cam  
General Manager  
Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC)  
PO Box 156  
MUDGEE NSW 2850



Dear Brad,

At the public meeting hosted by Mudgee District Branch of NSW Farmers' Association called on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 to discuss the current proposed rate structure, the following motions were passed unanimously:

- 1) That MWRC give detailed and considered reasons why the recommendation of the MWRC Rate Review Committee to Council to reduce the farmland rate by 10% over five years was not accepted and request that Council rectify the imbalance in the current Rate structure forthwith.
- 2) That MWRC bring rural roads up to an acceptable standard and maintain as required and stated in Council's Road Maintenance Schedule and Policy.

Additionally I submit the following on behalf of the Mudgee District Branch, NSW Farmers' Association:

**Draft Delivery Program 2016/17 Submission**

I refer to the draft delivery program 2016/17 currently on public exhibition on behalf of the Mudgee District Branch of NSW Farmers' Association. I would like to express our disappointment and strong objection to Council's proposed rate structure which continues to disadvantage farmland ratepayers.

Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics (ABARE) 2014 figures state that total farm business assets on average comprise 83% property value, 2% current assets, 15% non-current assets. No other business is taxed at such an extraordinary level on its total business assets by local government annually. MWRC resents an extreme case and example:

Within Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC), currently a full time farmer on an average 1,000 /1,200 ha property will be paying in the vicinity of \$10,000 per annum in Council rates. With an average annual increase of 2.5% to 3.5%, rates will increase by a thousand dollars every three to four years. This magnifies the unsustainable trajectory of the current rating model with an ever increasing percentage of farm incomes being paid in council rates.

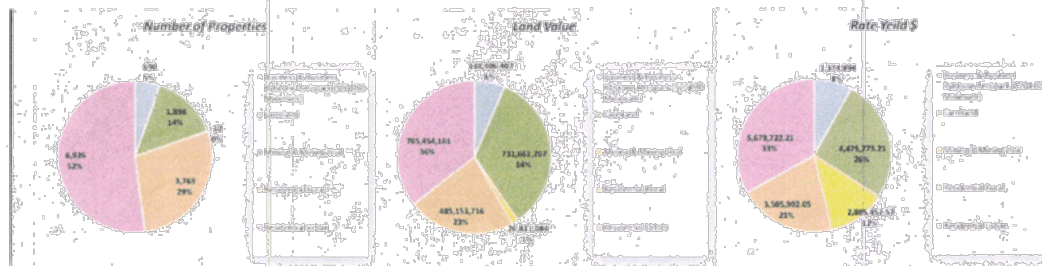
Agricultural production has historically been the mainstay of the local economy and a substantial supporter of many additional businesses in the MWRC area since first settlement. More recently it has become the common thread and vital backdrop intertwined with the ever increasing local tourism industry which, according to Local Government statistics, attracts in excess of 500,000 visitors per annum to the region. However farm incomes have not kept pace with various costs and wage increases for many years with agricultural commodities suffering long term market decline. Woolgrowers and particularly superfine wool production which is synonymous with the Mudgee region has felt the brunt of cost price squeeze over the last twenty years with incomes remaining static and decreasing in real terms without taking into account adverse seasonal conditions experienced and compounding already existing difficult circumstances experienced by many producers who have seen the proportion of their income paid in rates double over the last twenty years to the extent one farm business submission to Council in 2012 stated that council rates took 8% of their gross income.

Adjoining progressive and comparable Councils have adopted more realistic and sustainable rate structures better reflecting various income levels and ability to pay, recognising the fact that agriculture, unlike any other industry is taxed annually on its asset used to create income, and therefore should be rated at a substantially lower level.

Coupled with the above circumstance which comes into play with amalgamated councils such as MWRC is the diabolical situation where we inevitably have genuine farmland ratepayers becoming a minority constituency by a huge margin, but paying a substantially higher proportion of rates.

The following pie charts illustrate the problem MWRC farmers face, making up 14% of ratepayers and pay 26% of the rates.

Mid-Western Regional Council  
 Summary of rates as at December 2015



Under the current rate structure, coal mining in MWRC also presents another perverse outcome with an industry 20 times greater than agriculture in gross production in dollar terms, paying half the rates farmers do.

The gross value of primary production from agriculture in MWRC area is \$65 million annually according to the Bylong Mining Project Agriculture Impact Statement prepared by Scott Barret & Associates. (Our analysis using ABARE figures for MWRC suggests \$130-\$150 million is closer to the mark). They also state that the combined gross income from agriculture on the affected land in Bylong will be \$2.6 million per year compared to projected benefits of \$596 million from the coal mining project.

The collective coal mining extraction limit in MWRC area is currently 52 million tonnes annually with an imminent increase of a further four million tonnes with the Moolarben extension and an additional 6 million tonnes projected with the advent of the Kepco Bylong mine.

Only the coal mining industry could tell us what their collective gross income is, but I would suggest it is in billions, not millions, while their collective contribution to MWRC via rates is \$2,085,000, less than half that of farmland.

In 2002, with an extraction limit of 2 million tonnes annually, Ulan Coal then paid approximately \$200,000 in rates to Mudgee Shire Council.

We would submit that their contribution has not grown commensurately with their production capacity, economic footprint in MWRC or their impact on public infrastructure.

In our neighbouring Council of Lithgow, the coal mining industry currently has an annual extraction limit of 15 million tonnes and pays in excess of \$2 million annually in rates.

Additionally, when mining companies successfully do an extension and gain an increase in their extraction limit as they invariably do, there is no recourse in an extension Development Application for local government to increase their rates or contribution to Council that we are aware of.

**The objectives and design of a rating system (according to the recognised principles of taxation):**

The objectives of the Local Government Act with regard to rating are to:

- provide a system of local taxation, based on rates levied on property, which is simple, fair, broadly uniform, and which promotes local accountability
- permit the use of particular rates for the provision of specific services or facilities
- provide that councils will annually justify to their community their proposed revenue raising decisions in an open manner
- allow reasonable flexibility in the administration of the local taxation and charging regime
- reinforce council's accountability and responsibility for local revenue raising to the local community to provide for councils to set their own fees and charges for services

In particular, Council's charter under section 8 of the Act includes the following:

"To raise funds for local purposes by the fair imposition of rates, charges and fees".

The current imposition of rates in MWRC is manifestly unfair to the farming community and when compared to other councils, is biased against the farmland category, as exemplified by the following table of rates paid, ad valorem cents in the dollar by category.

| <i>Council</i> | <i>Residential</i> | <i>Farm</i> | <i>Business</i> | <i>Mining</i> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| MWRC           | 0.65               | 0.61        | 0.95            | 7.68          |
| Bathurst       | 0.92               | 0.28        | 1.8             |               |
| Lithgow        | 0.60               | 0.28        | 2.3             | 9.5           |
| Upper Hunter   | 0.75               | 0.43        | 0.75            | 43.0          |
| Warrumbungle   | 0.92               | 0.42        | 2.73            |               |
| Orange         | 0.61               | 0.18        | 1.2             |               |
| Dubbo          | 1.1                | 0.68        | 3.7             |               |

Furthermore, when compared to similar councils as evidenced in Comparative information on NSW Local Government, we find the following:



|               | Average Ordinary Res Rate | Average Ordinary Business Rate | Average Ordinary Farmland Rate | Average Ordinary Mining Rate |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Group Average | \$878.05                  | \$3168.15                      | \$1834.89                      | \$206,823.71                 |
| MWRC          | \$ 745.39                 | \$1821.72                      | \$2,190.48                     | \$10,606.33                  |

As can be seen in the above comparative figures, Farmland rates in MWRC are at a premium to the average while all other categories are at a discount to the average.

Additionally based on Councils own figures referred to in the “Community Plan 2030”, Mining’s contribution to the Gross Regional product (GRP) is 35.8%, Rental, Hiring and Real Estate is 11.5%, Manufacturing is 6.7% followed by Agriculture at 5.8%

It may be argued that rural ratepayers should pay for rural road maintenance as the access to their businesses as well as contributing towards services available to them in towns. Conversely, many rural ratepayers will contend their use of council provided services in town is restricted and often not used due to distance and isolation so why should they pay? The simple answer is that all constituents generally and collectively benefit from council services provided including a well maintained public road network. To take the parochial view and try and divide and attribute costs to particular categories as MWRC does is short sighted, counterproductive and only serves to divide the wider community.

Based on the preceding information, we strongly object to the proposed rate structure and proposed proportioning of rates to the farmland category for the following reasons:

- 1) MWRC convened a Rate Reference Group which recommended a reduction in Farmland rates by 10% over five years. Council has completely ignored their recommendation without any valid explanation or reason.
- 2) We have consistently lobbied MWRC over many years to put in place a fair and equitable rating structure to no avail and as previously stated on many occasions, when compared to neighbouring and comparable councils, the MWRC rating structure places an excessive and unfair rate burden on farmland ratepayers. This burden is unequalled in other comparative councils.
- 3) Consistently Residential, Business and Mining rate percentages in MWRC are rated at a discount to the average while Farmland is at a substantial premium as demonstrated in the Comparative Information for NSW Local Government. Unless MWRC can reasonably demonstrate why this should be the case, then it clearly should not exist.

- 3) Excessive and unreasonably high farmland rates only serves to provide a disincentive to investment in agriculture in the MWRC area in comparison to neighbouring council areas.
- 4) MWRC should take into account the long term cumulative effect of continuing to drive up the percentage of gross farm income taken in rates, and the ultimate impact this will have on farmland sustainability and viability.
- 5) Ultimately agriculture will remain a long term sustainable contributor to our local economy and it is important that investment in agriculture in MWRC is encouraged, not discouraged.
- 6) Continued rate increases, on top of already disproportionately high rates is driving up the percentage of gross farm income taken in rates over time, paying considerably more than other industries. This is not sustainable and is evidenced by the lessening number of agriculture service businesses in our community, small school closures of outlying communities.
- 7) MWRC should look at the long term main drivers of our local economy as evidenced in the MWRC “2030 Community Plan, Economic Snapshot”, and its beneficiaries and apply an appropriate, commensurate, fair and equitable rating structure. The 14% farmer rate base of MWRC cannot sustainably continue to fund 26% of MWRC total rates.
- 8) Section 8 of the Local Government Act clearly states as part of Council’s charter “to raise funds for local purposes by *the fair imposition of rates*, charges and fees”. We strongly contend that the current rate structure is grossly inequitable, manifestly unfair and biased against farmland ratepayers.
- 9) Failure to make incremental adjustments now will inevitably lead to major rates restructure in the not too distant future.

We strongly request Council reconsider the proposed rating structure on public exhibition and apply a rating structure that halts and addresses the continuing inequitable and unfair rate imposition on farmers.

Yours sincerely

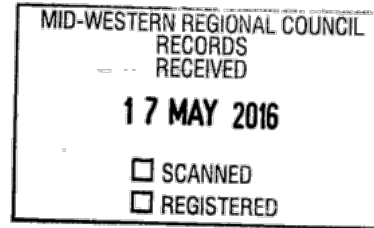
**MUDGEE DISTRICT BRANCH NSW FARMERS’ ASSOCIATION**



Mitchell Clapham  
**Chairman**

CC Deputy Premier Troy Grant MP  
CC Minister for Local Government Paul Toole MP

"Hooringle"  
866 Sally's Flat Road  
Pyramul 2850



Council seems hell bent on not reducing Farmland rates. The Rate Reference group recommended a reduction of 10% in Farmland rates over five years. However Council completely ignored them, Why?

Farmers are only 14% of ratepayers, but are paying 26% of total rate. The Coal mining industry in Mid Western Regional Council only pays half the total rates that Farmland ratepayers contribute yet they have 20 times the economic capacity of farmers. Farmers these days do not have the capacity to pay the huge Farmland rate set by this council. Some staff & some councillors do not seem to realise that farmers cannot keep paying these high rates.

Adjoining councils Farmland rates are only half what M W R C Farmlands rates are. Why?

I understand council cannot keep grading gravel roads now as they are short of money until the new financial year. This is brought about by poor management.

In the case of the road I live on, set at 2 year gradeings only. However Council when they do re-sheeting spend huge amounts of money carting gravel long distances, grading, rolling, watering etc, then leave the road to washaway for months or years without any mainter what so ever.

Council seems to want to spend huge amounts of money on bringing Glen Willow to a world class sporting complex. which seems a major waste of money for a town the size of Mudgee. The funding they are applying for would be better spent on rural roads.

Thanking you  
Yours faithfully  
Maxwell Price

**NE & LA Mattick**  
1050 Blackwillow Rd  
HARGRAVES NSW 2850  
eMail: owner@blackwillow.com.au  
PH: 6373 8624 / 0418 611 119

May 16<sup>th</sup> 2016.

Dear Councillor: \_\_\_\_\_

Mid Western Regional Council  
Market Street, Mudgee NSW 2850.

:: Rural Rates ::

As a long standing Grazing family at Hargraves it is now obvious by the marginal nature of our Industry that it is close to collapse.

Our case is not unlike most producing food and fibre anywhere and to quote John F. Kennedy:

*"The farmer is the only man in our economy who buys everything at retail, sells everything at wholesale and pays the freight both ways."*

Typically our livestock sell at cost of production or a little more in current markets; Twenty years ago there was a living margin, however, overall auction prices have risen little and yet costs have tripled in that time.

Cost burdens that are not fairly shared across our Council are Rates and there is ample evidence that Farmers' and Graziers' in Mid Western Regional Council are paying much more than adjoining Shire Councils without explanation from our Council; Why is it so?

To create some forward thinking and 'wide picture vision' we need to be smarter in our Council region as Mineral Extraction is rapidly retracting and sunrise industries (such as renewables / Large Scale Wind Farms) are emerging, (despite the hindrances placed on them).

Agriculture similarly is something I would like my family to continue the tradition and here Council needs to fairly apportion the Rate Base – before poverty takes charge – thank you.

Yours; 

Neville Mattick.  
T.E. Mattick & Co  
"Blackwillow" Hargraves  
Established - 1880.

## Item 10: Operations

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Nil

## Item 11: Community

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Nil

## Item 12: Reports from Committees

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Nil

## Item 13: Urgent Business Without Notice

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### URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

As provided by Clauses 19 & 20 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice (Clause 14 LGMR).

### GIVING NOTICE OF BUSINESS

19. (1) The Council must not transact business at a meeting of the Council:
- (a) unless a Councillor has given notice of the business in writing at least two (2) days prior to the day on which the agenda and business paper is prepared and delivered to Councillors; and
  - (b) unless notice of the business has been sent to the Councillors in accordance with Clause 6 of this Code. (see Section 367 LGA & Clause 14(1) LGMR)
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to the consideration of business at a meeting if the business:
- (a) is already before, or directly relates to a matter that is already before the Council (see Clause 14(2)(a) LGMR); or
  - (b) is the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting as provided by Clause 12(1) (see Clause 14(2)(b) LGMR); or
  - (c) is a matter or topic put to the meeting by the chairperson in accordance with Clause 21 (see Clause 14(2)(c) LGMR); or
  - (d) is a motion for the adoption of recommendations of a committee of the Council; (see Clause 14(2)(d) LGMR); or
  - (e) relates to reports from officers, which in the opinion of the Chairperson or the General Manager are urgent;
  - (f) relates to reports from officers placed on the business paper pursuant to a decision of a committee that additional information be provided to the Council in relation to a matter before the Committee; and
  - (g) relates to urgent administrative or procedural matters that are raised by the Mayor or General Manager.

### BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

20. (1) Despite Clause 19 of this Code, business may be transacted at a meeting of the Council even though due notice of the business has not been given to the Councillors. However, this can happen only if:
- (a) a motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting; and
  - (b) the business proposed to be brought forward is ruled by the Chairperson to be of great urgency. Such a motion can be moved without notice. (see Clause 14(3) LGMR)
- (2) Despite Clause 30 of this Code, only the mover of a motion referred to in subclause (1) can speak to the motion before it is put. (see Clause 14(4) LGMR)



## Item 14: Confidential Session

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Nil