



Minutes

RURAL LANDS STUDY PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

8 February 2016
3.30 pm

Name of Committee	
Item Number	Agenda
1	Welcome/present/apologies/declarations of interest
2	Minutes of the meeting of 23 November 2015
3	Business arising from the meeting of 23 November 2015
4	Rural and rural residential strategy review-Project Update
5	General Business
	Next meeting

MINUTES – RURAL LANDS STUDY PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE-

8 February 2016



ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT: Mayor Cllr Maree Statham; Deputy Mayor Cllr Ray Thompson; Cllr Wayne McAndrew; Cllr Peter Pilbeam; Group Manager Environment and Development- Andrew Muir; Strategic Land Use Planner- Sherilyn Hanrahan; Mr Ian Sinclair (Edge Land Planning)

APOLOGIES: Mr Ashley Albury

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

Cllr Statham declared a potential conflict of interest due to her ownership of a rural property on Sunny Corner Road which is her principal place of residence.

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 23 NOVEMBER 2015

SUMMARY

The minutes of the meeting of 23 November were reported to Council at its Ordinary Meeting of 14 December 2015.

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT The Minutes of the Rural Lands Study Project Steering Committee held on 23 November 2015 be accepted as a true and correct record

MOVED: Cllr McAndrew

SECONDED: Cllr Thompson

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING OF 23 NOVEMBER 2015

SUMMARY

The Committee was advised that all matters arising from the previous meeting were included as items on the agenda of this meeting. Therefore there were no matters requiring separate discussion.

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT The Committee note that business arising matters have been included as items for discussion at this meeting.

MOVED: Cllr McAndrew

SECONDED Cllr Thompson

ITEM: 4 RURAL AND RURAL RESIDENTIAL STRATEGY REVIEW – PROJECT UPDATE

SUMMARY

Council's consultant Mr Ian Sinclair has continued work on the project during the months of December and January.

A brief update of the following tasks was provided to, and discussed with, the Committee. The Committee was advised that some of this analysis is in preliminary form and will be further refined and checked as the project progresses:

Key Stakeholder Meetings: Meeting of key rural and resource sectors were held on 3 and 4 December 2015. These meetings provided good feedback in relation to rural values, concerns and the current and future situations for the resource sectors of mining and energy.

Demographic Analysis. Detailed analysis has been carried out of the demography of the rural land. This has been done at the Statistical Area Level 1 (former Collector District) of which there are 20 (these have been determined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics). This has enabled comparisons to be done for the rural areas, urban areas and the Lithgow LGA as well as Sydney, NSW and Australia. Topics covered include population (males, females and persons), occupancy rate, age of the residents, volunteering, internet usage, industry of workforce, qualification and working from home.

Economic Analysis. Analysis has been carried out using the ABS Agriculture Census value of production and commodities produced. This has been analysed to provide comparisons to the Central West Region, NSW and Australia for a range of agricultural commodities. In the case of Lithgow, the total value of production is \$18.8million, of which half (\$9 million) is cattle and egg production is valued at \$4.7 million.

Social and Physical Infrastructure. Data on the social and physical infrastructure is to be compiled in tabular format to provide an appreciation of the level of infrastructure in the rural areas.

Rural Holdings. The rural holdings have been mapped and the map and the range of holdings were presented and discussed.

Rural Residential Land Use Criteria. A set of land use criteria has been developed for identifying land for future rural residential development based on experience of other similar areas. This criteria is to be included in the rural residential discussion paper and used at the rural residential workshop to inform discussion.

Rural Residential Discussion Paper. A discussion paper is to be prepared on rural residential development in advance of the workshop on the 22 February 2016. This discussion paper will define rural residential development and discuss some of the issues pertaining to rural residential land use. It is intended to be generic in focus with some local examples where appropriate.

Overview of proposed facilitation of February workshops. Interest in the visioning workshops has been very strong indicated through on line registration of

participants. An additional workshop has been arranged for Hartley in the afternoon of 11 February commencing at 2pm to accommodate the overwhelming demand.

The high number of participants will be taken into consideration in the facilitation of the workshops.

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT. The Committee notes the project update from Mr Ian Sinclair.

MOVED: Cllr Thompson

SECONDED: Cllr McAndrew

ITEM: 5 GENERAL BUSINESS

SUMMARY

There were no items of General Business

ITEM 6: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Project Steering Committee will be combined with a Councillor Briefing Session to be held on 23 February 2016 at 5.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.45pm