



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

POLICY AND STRATEGY MEETING OF
COUNCIL

HELD ON

03 APRIL 2006

**MINUTES OF THE LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE CIVIC CENTRE, LITHGOW ON 3 APRIL 2006**

Meeting Commenced 6.00pm

Public Gallery: 29

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor
Councillor Neville Castle
Councillor B P Morrissey
Councillor M F Ticehurst
Councillor H K Fisher
Councillor B S Moran
Councillor M M Collins
Councillor A E Thompson
Councillor M J Wilson

APOLOGIES

An apology was received and accepted from W McAndrew who was absent from the City on personal business.

06- 88 RESOLVED

MOVED: Councillor H K Fisher **SECONDED:** Councillor M J Wilson.

Also in attendance

General Manager, Mr Paul Anderson
Manager Engineering Services, Mr Clive Cawthorne
Manager Environmental and Planning Services, Mr Andrew Muir
Finance Manager, Mrs Carol Farnsworth
Minutes Secretary, Miss Casey Clarke

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting of Council held on the 6 March 2006 were taken as read and confirmed by Councillors H K Fisher and M J Wilson

06- 89 RESOLVED

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

His Worship the Mayor called for Declarations of Interest on any matter before the Meeting.

NIL

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY

At 6.00pm members of public gallery were invited to address questions through the Mayor to Councillors and Staff: -

QPG - MR CHARLIE NORTH

1. Mr Mayor do road patching gangs have authority to do small repairs pointed out to them by neighbours, eg a new pothole?

Road patching gangs do have the authority to take request from the public for the undertaking or rectification works to small potholes repairs within the local street road pavement and/or footpaths.

2. Mr Mayor could Council put a street sign on 51 Bayonet Street to Amiens Street?

Council is willing to fulfil the request for a street sign, however requires:

- *The need for such a street sign*
- *The exact street name*
- *The exact location of the sign to be implemented*

3. Mr Mayor could Council have an encouraging campaign to entice residents to display house numbers? One street I had to door knock to find numbers.

QPG - MR TERRY CAMPBOURNE - CHARGES TO COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor does Council intend to charge the members of the Swimming Club administration to the pool once this fee is paid?

This is a matter for Council determination.

2. Mr Mayor is the Lithgow Council prepared to see the Lithgow Swimming Club close due to this fee of \$28875 being close to double the income for the Club this year and beyond the means of the Club?

Continuation of the Swimming Club is a matter for the Swimming Club to determine.

QPG - RAY STONELEY - LITHGOW ATHLETICS CLUB - CHARGES TO COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor are you aware Council did not inform local sporting clubs of the proposed changes before making them public? Clubs were not notified in writing of the changes and the effects that the changes will have.

Council has not considered the policy at this stage and advice will be given to sporting bodies when Councils resolution is known.

2. Mr Mayor are you aware Council has given sporting clubs insufficient time to respond to the proposals before they are to be voted on at a Council meeting. Clubs should have been given notice so that they can call committee meetings to discuss the situation and formulate a reply to the Council.

Advertising of any policy will be undertaken prior to the final adoption of the policy.

3. Mr Mayor Council has not taken into account the effect that increased charges will have on the sporting clubs, most of which are non profit organisations and are already struggling financially with a lack of sponsors. Many clubs could be lost to the local district.

This is a statement only.

4. Mr Mayor the effect that this decision will have on the participating sporting members of the clubs. Extra costs to clubs will have to be passed on to the members and participants of the club. This will result in fewer members as increased costs will force many people away from playing sport as they will not be able to afford to play sport.

This is a statement only.

5. The health of the local community will be affected as more and more people will not be able to afford to play sport. These people will not be able to maintain fitness levels through active participation and their health will suffer as a result.

This is a statement only.

6. Mr Mayor the cost to our local children who currently use Lithgow's facilities during sport periods at schools.

Council has "Fees and Chars" application for causal hirers.

7. Mr Mayor what will be the effect to local schools that also use the facilities?

Council has "Fees and Chars" application for causal hirers.

8. Mr Mayor what about all the work put in by all the volunteers from the respective sporting bodies? Will the Council take this into account?

Charges are only in relation to Councils maintenance costs.

QPG - KEVIN HANRAHAN - LITHGOW STORM JRLFC - CHARGES TO COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor can Council provide to the meeting the supportive research information that was considered in the formulation of the proposed "draft" policy document "Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Fields and Facilities"?

The report details the required information.

2. Mr Mayor has Council completed and operational review to ascertain the "best use" of current Council sporting grounds and identified operational areas where maintenance costs can be reduced?

Individual clubs can book sporting facilities. Council does not request which ones they use. Costs for maintenance are driven by usage.

3. Mr Mayor has Council considered its position with the recent increase of dispersed high maintenance sporting areas with regard to cost benefit analysis (eg increase costs of maintaining extra turf wickets) as against the overall community benefit resulting from the increase in these types of sporting assets?

The policy endeavours to charge 10% of the sport field by booking.

4. Mr Mayor has Council fully considered the social impact on young children of the community if parents cannot pay increased fees because of the hasty introduction of poorly considered fee structures?

This may be an issue for sporting associations to consider for their own members.

5. Mr Mayor how does Council propose to complete meaningful policy consultation in 28 days with a policy that has far reaching implications which may have a dramatic effect on the Lithgow community as a whole if not adequately considered?

Council will undertake required advertising in media and consultation to be undertaken with the bodies directly involved.

QPG - JEFF DEAN - LITHGOW BEARS RLFC - CHARGES TO COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor why is Council proposing to recover in the order of 55% of the total maintenance costs associated with the Sportsground from Sportsground users while they are us proposing to recover only 10% of costs from users of other facilities?

The Policy would be 10% of facility to all users.

2. Mr Mayor why aren't the users of the Sportsground being asked to contribute a collective \$12,900 instead of the apparently budgeted for \$71,145?

The Policy would be 10% of facility to all users.

3. Mr Mayor why aren't the users of the Sportsground being asked to contribute at a rate 1,000% greater than other sporting bodies?

Charges predicted equivalent to all the users \$14,229

4. My Mayor does Council consider the \$2,500 it receives annually from the Bears, which is in the order of 11% of the Club's turnover, a minimal contribution.

This will not be applicable from 1 July 2006 if the policy is adopted.

5. Mr Mayor does Council consider that requiring the Bears to pay an up front \$14,229, which equate to over \$500 per player, fair?

6. Mr Mayor would the cost of maintaining the Sportsground reduce by \$14,229 if the Bears are forced by the Council to fold?

This is a matter for Council consideration.

7. Mr Mayor would the cost of maintaining the swimming pool reduce by \$28,875 if the Swimming Club no longer used the facility?

This is a matter for Council consideration.

8. Mr Mayor would Council consider making grants and land available for Rugby League and Rugby Union clubs, as has been done in the past, for other sporting bodies which, from your proposal, not only have the benefit of their own facility, but also are being asked for minimal maintenance contributions?

9. Mr Mayor does Council consider that sporting bodies are of little or no value to the community?

The Council definitely does not consider this.

10. Mr Mayor if sporting bodies cease to exist, does Council consider that there would be no appreciable impact on Lithgow's economy?

This is a matter which Council may need to consider.

QPG - CORINNE OGG - LITHGOW DISTRICT SOCCER - CHARGES TO COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor Lithgow District Soccer Inc have always maintained the Marjorie Jackson fields and buildings at our own expense!

This is why Marjorie Jackson costs for Council are considerable low.

2. Mr Mayor Paul Houghton Field was developed by LDS Committee members through Government Grants and cared for by Paul Houghton himself for many years, since its care was handed over to Council it is no longer in the condition of the Premiership Field it once was. The sprinkler system has been broken on many occasions when it has been run over by Council employees mowing the field. A truck has been bogged in the middle of it causing much damage. We estimate it would cost in ballpark of \$20,000 to restore it to the state it was in when handed over to Council.

This is a statement only.

3. Mr Mayor we would like to know where the maintenance fees for the years 2000 - 2004 were spent on the Marjorie Jackson Playing Fields? As it was only in 2005 that council assisted us by putting in place the Goal Posts, until last year this massive task was undertaken by volunteers and the LDS Inc committee members. Lack of watering saw an increase of injury due to the hardness of the ground and the damage of fields. In the off season this year, top soil and turf were laid, the first time this has happened in the recent history.

The maintenance fees were spent on grass cutting and amenities maintenance etc.

4. Mr Mayor we pay for the electricity to operate security lighting and the maintenance and repair of this lighting; will Council now take over this cost?

This is a matter for Councils consideration.

5. Mr Mayor we also have organised our own private Security Firm which we pay for to answer alarms so that the facilities are not destroyed, again we ask will Council take over these costs?

This is a matter for Councils consideration.

6. Mr Mayor as Cricket also makes use of these fields, will they be asked to contribute to the fees?

Should the cricket Association book the Marjorie Jackson fields, the policy would seek 10% of the maintenance charge as a fee.

7. Mr Mayor Lithgow High School uses the Fields on a weekly bases doing more damage to the facilities than our members, will they be asked to contribute to the fees?

There are causal hirers which are covered.

8. Mr Mayor the LDS Committee built the facilities that are currently on the fields when we built these facilities, there were only the toilets that are currently in the change rooms which were inadequate, there are now enough toilets to accommodate all who use these fields, we also clean these toilets during the soccer season on a weekly basis and maintain them. Will Council now take over this cost?

This is a matter for Council consideration.

9. Mr Mayor we have information that states fee is calculated as 10% (inclusive of GST) of the maintenance of these fields, which has been calculated at \$11,891.00. Our calculation tells us that 10% of this figure is \$1,189.10. Could we have the amount explained to use and how Council have come up with their figure of \$1307.00?

The report shows the Marjorie Jackson maintenance as \$11,891 therefore 10% equals \$1,189 +GST \$118 which equals \$1307.00.

10. Mr Mayor we feel if the fields were in a good condition and the council could assure is of A Grade playing fields and facilities including fencing, toilets etc, we would have no problem with paying this fee, but would need to see the fields in this sate to begin with not wait for it to happen.

This is a statement only

11. Mr Mayor we would also like to know who will handle the monies raised by this fee? How can we be assured they will be spent on the upkeep and improvement of the fields?

Council allocate expenditure annually in the Management Plan.

12. Mr Mayor as we have already set our fees for the 2006 season this fee will need to be paid out of our funds as we cannot now ask our members to pay an extra \$2.00 each to cover it, this means that funds we would normally use for the development of the game in Lithgow and the players will have to be taken away from them. We do not run as a profitable business we are in fact only taking from our members what we need to pay our governing bodies, insurance and Referee fees. This will disadvantage our representative sides that in turn represent the City of Lithgow every time they tae the field.

This is a statement only.

13. Mr Mayor as a majority of our members are Rate payers or children of rate payers, is Council not in fact double charging them, do not their rates pay for the upkeep and repair of playing fields?

The Policy endeavours to adopt a "user pay" principle.

QPG - MR HAMMET - LITHGOW GOLF CLUB - CHARGES OF COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor we would like to let Council know that we are very appreciative of the help the Council has been on both the course and the golf clubhouse, and it has always been understood that when our financial situation had recovered, we would then begin paying the Council back, both monetarily and with in kind upkeep and restoration of the heritage clubhouse building and surrounds.

As you would be aware the Lithgow Golf Club in 2003 was insolvent and was on the brink of closing, but now with the help of the Council we are certainly on the road to recovery, but we still have a way to go to become a completely viable concern.

The amount mentioned (\$16,613) will put a very serious dent in our recovery program, so if some consideration could be given to the amount of IN KIND work that has been carried out on your asset recently (including plumbing, electrical, the painting of the whole interior etc) amounting to some twenty two thousand dollars so far this year (work that the Council as not had to pay for) it would be appreciated.

This is a statement only.

QPG - SUE CRAIG - LITHGOW COMMUNITY PROJECTS - CHARGES COMMUNITY SPORTING BODIES

1. Mr Mayor what does Council see as its role in relation to the provision of infrastructure for the Lithgow area?
2. Mr mayor what does it Council see its role in terms of Social Planning and Social Justice, particularly relating to children and young people within our community?
3. Mr Mayor how does the proposal of "user pays" fit with the ideas discussed at the recent community consultation which was conducted by Twyford Consultancy on behalf of Lithgow City Council?
4. Mr Mayor the Lithgow service Improvement Plan Draft Report presented by Twyford Consultancy in 2001 highlighted the following points:
 - a) Greater Lithgow was ranked 2nd in terms of socio-economic disadvantage in the local region, 32nd in state wide.
 - b) Lithgow has a higher than state average amount of public housing
 - c) Greater Lithgow has the highest incidence of cardio-vascular disease leading to hospitalisation in the mid western area between 1995-1996, well above the state average
 - d) Compared to other areas in the Central west of Blue Mountains, Lithgow has less entertainment and cultural activity. This means alcohol related entertainment dominates the social life of the community. While there are strengths in having people "make their own fun", the drawbacks are anti-social behaviours, alcohol abuse and related social problems.
 - e) Lithgow is experiencing a decline in some sporting and recreational activities.
 - f) Lithgow needs to positively adopt community development strategies to create better social outcomes. The roles of council in promoting community identity and in supporting community development is important.
 - g) It was also identified in the Lithgow City Council 2000 - 2002 Social Plan, Section 9: Common areas of need Action Plan that there was a "need to develop partnerships at a local level to investigate funding opportunities for the upgrading and ongoing maintenance of recreational facilities.
5. Mr Mayor how does Council see that adopting a position of user pays for recreational activities within the community works toward addressing the above points of concern?

6. Mr Mayor from our perspective as a community organisation, we aim to reconnect families to community activities. However, financial limitations are one of the major obstacles preventing many from participation. It is our concern that a "user pay" system shall increase that already expanding gap between the "haves" and the "have nots" in our community. Under this system, organised sport has the potential to become accessible only to middle and high income earners.
Has Council explored the potential consequences on the broader Lithgow community should a large majority of children and young people be denied access to social and recreational activities within our community?

These issues will be taken on notice and reply will be written.

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ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:1 ENG - 20/03/06 - REMOVAL OF TELSTRA PAYPHONE SERVICES IN THE LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL AREA

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

Council recently had concerns relating to the removal of payphone services from South Littleton Area of Lithgow. Telstra has responded with written correspondence relating to the questions put forward to them as follows:

COMMENTARY

Council has written to Telstra requesting investigation response to the removal of payphone services from the South Littleton area of Lithgow. Telstra have responded as follows:

Quote:

‘Telstra receives many requests for the installation and relocation of public payphones across the nation. Each request is investigated its merits using a variety of criteria including, but not limited to:

- Evident community demand;
- Telstra’s obligations under the Universal Service Plan;
- Financial Viability; and
- Operational standards

With a limited amount of resources, we try to balance all the relevant factors to obtain the most effective distribution and highest quality of service to customers across the nation.

In this instance an existing low usage Payphone service was knocked down and the remnants recovered to make the site safe. A decision has then been made not to reinstate the facility after applying the above criteria’.

Telstra was also asked to produce records of other payphones that have been removed within the South Littleton Area. Telstra responded with the following:

Quote:

‘Telstra has no records of a payphone being located near Lemnos Street or Loan Pine Avenue and I do not know of any recovery in that area’.

Find attached a copy of the correspondence received from Telstra relating to Payphone Services for the South Littleton, Lithgow.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT information be received for discussion.

06- 90 RESOLVED

THAT the matter be referred to the Federal Member Mr Peter Andren regarding removal of phone boxes and seek to have the decision reversed.

MOVED: Councillor B P Morrissey

SECONDED: Councillor A E Thompson.

CARRIED

ITEM: 2 ENG - 03/04/06 - EXTENSION OF BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD 2006 SEASON

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

The NSW Rural Fire Service has recently written to Council advising that the Bushfire Danger Period in the City of Lithgow Local Government Area has been extended by one month to the 30 April 2006.

COMMENTARY

NSW Rural Fire Service has advised that the 'Bushfire Danger Period' has been extended by one month to the 30 April 2006 for the Lithgow Local Government Area. The decision to recommend the extension of the Bushfire Danger Period was made following consultation with local Brigade Captains and Group Officers as well as the Bushfire Management Committee Operations Group. Council would agree that the seasonal weather patterns have been very dry with very little rain experienced, thus making for favourable fire conditions into the autumn months of 2006. It is therefore recommended that the extension be granted until 30 April 2006.

Council should also be aware that this variation to the Bushfire Danger Period has also been gazetted and Council are advised to advertise this period within the Local newspaper as a means of community awareness.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

1. RFS – Request for Variation to Bushfire Danger Period.
2. RFS – Approval Notice to extend Bushfire Danger Period to 30 April 2006.

06- 91 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. The information be received.
2. Council arrange for an advertisement in the local newspaper and website indicating the extension of the Bushfire Danger Period to 30 April 2006.

MOVED: Councillor H K Fisher

SECONDED: Councillor M M Collins.

CARRIED

ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:3 EPS - 03/04/06 - WATER FLUORIDATION PRESENTATION

SUMMARY

To provide a presentation on water fluoridation.

COMMENTARY

A meeting was held with Mr John Irving of the Northern NSW Oral Health Network, the General Manager and Environmental and Planning Services Manager to discuss the seriousness of dental disease in the Lithgow area compared with nearby fluoridated areas. As a result, it was agreed that a presentation be made to Council at its Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting of 3 April 2006 at 6pm. It is also understood that Mr Irving will explain the process that exists for the provision of the necessary equipment to fluoridate the water supply at no cost to Council if the issue is considered one of public health.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council at its Finance and Policies Committee Meeting of 14 October 1991 resolved "that Council not proceed with the fluoridation of the public water supply in Greater Lithgow".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this presentation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications as a result of this presentation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. The presentation from Mr Irving be received.
2. Council consider its position on water fluoridation and decide on public health grounds if it wishes the matter to be referred to a process where the Director General of Health will consider making a direction on the fluoridation of the water supply with the provision of equipment and installation to be funded by the NSW Government.

06- 92 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. The presentation from Mr Irving be received.
2. Council request the Department of Health conduct its own survey on the Lithgow population via a letter drop in relation to the position of fluoridisation.
3. A further report on the outcomes to be report to Council, including the likely operational costs.

MOVED: Councillor H K Fisher

SECONDED: Councillor M J Wilson.

CARRIED

ITEM:4 EPS - 03/04/06 - UPDATE OF STRATEGIC PLAN

REFERENCE

Item 4, PP&S 6/2/06

Item 5, PP&S 6/3/06

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide the monthly update of the Strategic Plan Project, in particular the outcomes from Stage 1 of the Community Engagement Plan – Visioning Sessions.

COMMENTARY

LOCAL PROFILE

The local profile is nearing completion with all draft analysis reports due to be submitted to Council in early April, for review by the Strategic Working Party. In terms of the project timeline this represents an extension of two weeks due to delays experienced in obtaining key data sets.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN – STAGE 1 -VISIONING

Stage 1 of the community engagement plan incorporating the visioning sessions took place over the last three week period (March 7- 22) In this time, Council's officers and consultants conducted a total of thirteen (13) visioning sessions at various locations throughout the Local Government Area.

These sessions were well supported by the community with in excess of 250 people attending.

Participants of these sessions provided Council and their consultants with a wealth of information regarding the issues currently facing our community along with their opinions and visions of what the future of the Lithgow Local Government Area should hold

Several key threads emerged from each of these sessions and are summarised below;

- **Employment Opportunities:** wish to provide for a variety of employment opportunities for people of all ages and abilities
- **Growth:** wish to provide for growth in a controlled manner, without losing the identity of areas and to be consistent with the provision of services and infrastructure to support such growth
- **Transport:** wish to provide better transport links both public and private to/from and within the Local Government Area
- **Environment:** wish to protect and enhance our natural environment in a sustainable manner for the enjoyment of current and future generations and to provide opportunities for tourism
- **Heritage:** wish to protect, enhance and promote our natural and built heritage assets
- **Youth:** wish to provide more community facilities for youth and provide employment opportunities and lifestyle choices for youth to remain within the area
- **Education:** wish to provide a variety of opportunities for learning within our Local Government Area
- **Community:** wish to maintain our strong sense of community, be happy and vibrant, respectful and provide for equal access to services and facilities.
- **Image:** wish to improve the image of Lithgow through promotion, beautification programs and provision of a more diverse economy

These threads will now be woven together into vision statement/s to underpin the Strategic Plan. This task is being assisted by a community group consisting of representatives from all previous sessions. This group met on 22nd March, 2006 and although making some real progress will need to meet again to carry out this task. The break will enable the process to be more deliberative by allowing time for the participants to receive all output from the previous sessions and to think about what it is that Council is asking them to do.

This further session will take place in the evening on 19th April, 2006.

All data output from the visioning sessions will be sent to all participants and will be placed on Council's Website.

RESIDENT FEEDBACK REGISTER

The Resident Feedback Register has also been established with a total of 232 participants. This Register was established by Market Facts (Qld) P/L, a social research company without any Council involvement. The Register is statistically representative of the demographics within our Local Government Area in terms of age and gender base.

Letters advising residents of the outcome from their application forms should reach participants shortly. Participants have been asked to sign up for a period of two years.

The Register in the first instance will be used to further engage the community in the Strategic Plan process.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY/AGENCY FORUM

A forum for government authority/agency stakeholders will be held on 10th April, 2006. This forum will follow on from an initial written consultation in February, 2006 and will provide a further opportunity for discussion of issues and policy direction in a collaborative manner.

The outcomes from the forum will be checked against the local profile and will feed directly into the issues paper for the Strategic Plan.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

No policy implications arise from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Strategic Plan project is funded by the Planning Reform Fund Program. A full report detailing expenditure and commitments from the grant monies allocated will be provided to the next meeting of the Strategic Working Party.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No legal implications arise from this report.

06- 93 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. The information be received.
2. A date and time for the next Strategic Working Party be set within the week May 1 – 5, 2006.

MOVED: Councillor M J Wilson

SECONDED: Councillor M M Collins.

CARRIED

ITEM:5 EPS - 03/04/06 - DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION APPROVALS

REPORT

Purpose of Report

The following Development Applications and Combined Development/Construction Certificate Applications have been approved subject to compliance with the requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the Mine Subsidence Act, where applicable, and any special conditions.

DA NUMBER	OWNERS NAME	SITE ADDRESS	PROPOSAL	APPROVAL TIME (DAYS)
535/05	T TOMS	62 MCKANES FALLS ROAD, SOUTH BOWENFELS	PATIO COVER	11
538/05	BJ & LG WILLIAMS	59 CUPRO STREET, LITHGOW	ADDITION TO LAUNDRY/FAMILY ROOM	21
494/05	JH & CM POLLARD	38 KANIMBLA DRIVE, LITTLE HARTLEY	DECK ADDITION	14
540/05	B HOLDER	18 WALKER DRIVE, WALLERAWANG	PATIOCOVER/ADDITION	28
05/06	MS & NL HARDING	46 QUARRY ROAD, PORTLAND	GARAGE	25
18/06	G WILLIAMS	5 OXLEY STREET, WALLERAWANG	GARAGE	20
42/06	LB & JE DRURY	51 RABAUL STREET, LITHGOW	PATIOPORT	10
39/06	BM & KA MACCULLAGH	36 JAMES PARADE, WALLERAWANG	PATIOPORT	11
395/05	AC & E GRECH	51-53 MORT STREET, LITHGOW	SUBDIVISION INTO 2 LOTS & DWELLING	42
06/06	TM & SL BRAIN	46 MALVERN STREET, LITHGOW	DWELLING ADDITION & CARPORT	21
534/05	PJ & J NEWHAM	11 HENDERSON PLACE, LITHGOW	DWELLING	14
54/06	DJ TAYLOR	4 DAVY STREET, LITHGOW	SWIMMING POOL	8
08/06	KF CONCRETE	LOT 42 MAIN STREET, WALLERAWANG	STORAGE SILO FOR CEMENT POWDER	31
72/06	TD & KM ROSS	4 MAPLE CRESCENT, LITHGOW	PATIO & GARDEN SHED	8
61/06	R M PYNE	45 CASTLEREAGH HWY, CULLEN BULLEN	GARAGE	6
09/06	PRIME TELEVISION	730 SUNNY CORNER RD, PORTLAND	2.4M GRIDPOLE FOR DIGITAL TV	21

MINUTES – POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL

45/06	EJ & KM WILLOUGHBY	3 TAMARIND PLACE, SOUTH BOWENFELS	ABOVEGROUND SWIMMING POOL	18
55/06	LT & GJ DYSON	53 LYON PARADE, WALLERAWANG	GARAGE	8
38/06	G LEWIS	12 FERRO STREET, LITHGOW	PATIOPORT	13
44/06	BR & MB DAVIES	18 AMBERMERE DRIVE, LITTLE HARTLEY	CARPORT	9
73/06	E GALASSO	396 RYDAL/SODWALLS/TARANA ROAD, SODWALLS	BBQ/STORE	6
405/05	DJ NOBLE	1501 JENOLAN CAVES ROAD, LOWTHER	DWELLING EXTENSION	25
501/05	LOCH NO. PTY LTD	LOT 12 DP 1043086 SANDFORD AVENUE, LITHGOW	PATIOPORT	17
473/05	L GOODALL	120 BLACKMAN'S CREEK ROAD, HARTLEY	DUAL OCCUPANCY	23
65/06	EE COUGHLAND	22 GIRRAWEE DRIVE, MARRANGAROO	DWELLING	12
89/06	JL & EL PRINGLE	2 WINDARRA PLACE, MARRANGAROO	CONCRETE SWIMMING POOL	4
90/06	TS & JA JENNINGS	67 RESERVE ROAD, MARRANGAROO	SWIMMING POOL	4
64/06	J & J LANE	3 IVATT STREET, LITHGOW	ENCLOSE EXISTING PATIO	6
59/06	DA & JM SWIFT	26 CHIVERS CLOSE, LITHGOW	DWELLING ADDITION & CARPORT	12
37/06	MA & AL LANE	23 PARK PARADE, LITHGOW	CARPORT	17
76/06	MD & CA CURRAN	4 BIRDWOOD STREET, LITHGOW	PATIOPORT	11
507/04	WW CHOU	2358 GLEN ALICE ROAD, GLEN ALICE	SUBDIVISION INTO 8 LOTS	93
381/05	C KELLY	8 LETT STREET, LITHGOW	DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING	29
439/05	BA ROBSON	159 MARSDEN ROAD, RYLSTONE	DWELLING ADDITION	23
489/05	GG & PM COX	50 MAGPIE HOLLOW ROAD, SOUTH BOWENFELS	SUBDIVISION INTO 2 LOTS (Legal issues required resolution)	81

Total Estimated Cost:	\$1,462,614
Average Approval Time	20 DAYS
Total Cost of Approvals from 1/01/06	\$8,092,279
No. of Applications from 1/01/2006	102

06- 94 RESOLVED

THAT the information be received.

MOVED: Councillor M M Collins

SECONDED: Councillor M J Wilson.

CARRIED

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:6 CORP - 03/04/06 - CONSIDERATION OF CHARGES TO COMMUNITY & SPORTING BODIES - 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 MANAGEMENT PLAN

REFERENCE

09 March 2006: 3 Year Draft Management Plan workshop

SUMMARY

To provide Council a DRAFT policy 'Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Fields' which includes the implementation of charging sporting bodies and community groups on a 'user pay ' basis for the provision of Council assets and services. The recommendation is for a further report be brought back detailing submissions received following the specified advertising period.

The policy if adopted it will be effective from the 1 July 2006 and charging will commence in conjunction with the 2006/07 Management Plan.

COMMENTARY

At the 2006/07 Draft Management Plan workshop of the 9 March 2006 Councillors considered the commencement of appropriate charging for the use of Councils administrative services or the provision of assets provided to various community groups and sporting bodies.

The groups identified all receive income via fees, membership and / or association affiliation fees and presently pay no or only a minimal contribution to Council for the upkeep of the asset used.

SPORTING BODIES:

It is recommended Council consider the attached draft policy document 'Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Fields & Facilities' which includes the imposition of a charge as a percentage area of the asset utilised (up to a maximum of 10%) by the previous year's maintenance of the facility. This in reality means Council and the wider community will still fund the 90% difference, or it will actively enable Council to use the additional funding to improve these assets.

The charge will be levied upon the sporting body at the time approval is granted for the use of the asset and will be payable within the first month of commencement of the booking. This will allow each group sufficient time to levy and collect an acceptable membership fee from each individual player.

If the policy is accepted by Council it will be effective from the 1 July 2006 following advertising, for public comment, for a required three week period. Sporting associations specifically mentioned will be contacted directly.

MAINTENANCE CHARGES - SPORTING FACILITIES

FACILITY	2005/06 MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE
TL Sportsground	129,368
Glanmire	26,626
MJ Oval	11,891
Watsford / Conran Oval	12,407
Kremer Park	28,441
Wallerawang Oval	14,300
Swimming Pool	285,906
Golf Club Bld & Course	151,032
TOTAL	659,971

SPORTING GROUPS

ORGANISATION	FACILITY & %	PROPOSED FEE 2006/07 (GST Inc)
League: Lithgow Grounds	TL: 10%	14,229
Union: Bears Lithgow Grounds	TL: 10%	14,229
Touch Football : Lithgow Grounds	TL: 10%	14,229
Trotting Assoc: Lithgow	TL: 10%	14,229
Union: Portland Colts	Kremer: 10%	3,128
Union: Wang Warriors	Wang Oval: 10%	1,573
Trotting Assoc: Lithgow	TL: 10%	14,229
Trotting Assoc: Portland Owners	Kremer: 10%	3,128
Soccer Assoc	MJ Oval: 10%	1,307
Swimming club	Pool: 10%	28,875
Golf Club	Golf: 10%	16,613
Hockey Assoc	Glanmire: 10%	2,928
Cricket Assoc: Lithgow Grounds	TL/Watsford: 10%	15,594
Cricket Assoc: Portland Grounds	Kremer: 10%	3,128
Cricket Assoc: Wang Grounds	Wang Oval: 10%	1,573
Tennis Assoc	Glanmire: 5%	1,464
TOTAL	GST Inclusive	135,504

COMMUNITY GROUPS:

Council has undertaken administrative services for Coinda Aged Care Homes since 1968, and the production of payroll for Tabulam Cottages Portland, since 1990. All authority and daily operations are held by both Committees. Due to the demands of Local Government Council must consider a change to this process in order to meet full or part cost recovery for the services provided.

Council is well aware of the importance of the function undertaken by both institutions with regard to aged care in the area but we should also be aware of the demands required by our resources from all sectors of the community, for example aged care, childcare, sport and recreation, water, sewerage, libraries, community services etc.

To be accountable to all groups and government departments we must reflect the true costs of the services provided by Council and it is recommend Coinda and Tabulam be charged the direct employee related costs and associated overheads, for 2006/07, to enable Council to undertake the preparation and completion of administrative services provided on a weekly, monthly and annual basis.

The resources utilised may be summarised as follows:

- Payroll officer: weekly, group certificates, superannuation
- Accounts payable: weekly cheques, orders, petty cash
- Accounts receivable: collection and maintenance of resident fees and bonds
- Cashiering: receipting of resident fees, bonds, donations, grants
- Computer time: processing of all transactions
- EFT transfers / cheque production
- Liaison with Centre link / Dept Health and Ageing / various banks
- Preparation of accounts for audit
- Preparation of Statement of Prudential Compliance
- Management and investment of all bond and retentions
- Management of grant funding
- Management of insurance requirements
- Monthly reporting to the Committee
- Liaison with the Centres Management and office staff
- Liaison with Auditors on a quarterly basis
- Preparations with regard to Accreditation standards
- Stationery associated with all transactions

COMMUNITY GROUPS:

GROUP	2006/07 ESTIMATED CHARGE + ASSOC OVERHEADS
Coinda	47,635
Tabulam	12,585
TOTAL	60,220

(a) Policy Implications

Adoption of the DRAFT policy 'Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Fields' following the specified advertising period. The policy will include the implementation of charging for sporting fees on a 'user pay' basis for the use of Council assets and services.

(b) Financial Implications

This report if adopted potentially will see "user" paying a proportion of the costs associated with the sport that they enjoy.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council advertise the DRAFT policy 'Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Fields' for a period of 28 days
2. All sporting bodies and community groups mentioned be contacted individually
3. A further report be brought back to Council itemising submissions received

06- 95 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. Council stay with their current policy of charges.
2. Council enter into discussions with Coinda and all sporting bodies seeking their assistance into costs.

MOVED: Councillor H K Fisher

SECONDED: Councillor M M Collins.

CARRIED

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QWN - COUNCILLOR H K FISHER

1. Feb 2006 Gas Company dug up road outside 17 Busby Street, road still not repaired.

Mick Williams from Agility (AGL) has advised Council that restoration work has been put in the works system for action. Agility propose to have the restoration work completed within the next two weeks.

2. Shopping trolley in Canal alongside Crane road turn off.

Three shopping trolleys were removed on the 3 April 2006.

3. Footpath, Power lines in Sandford Ave - deplorable state need urgent work.

The relevant telecommunications contractors have been pursued with relation to the restoration of the footpath in Sandford Avenue. Council has requested payment to restore this footpath be received. It is anticipated that council will undertake this work immediately upon receipt of payment for this restoration work.

4. Fence on Railway Bridge, Sandford over pass. Requires urgent work.

Railcorp have been contacted approximately 4 weeks ago with relation to having repairs carried out upon their bridge. Railcorp advised that the matter was to be investigated and repair work would be carried as per their findings.

5. Valley plaza Pot Holes - damage done to cars as very deep.

An inspection on 03/04/06 failed to identify the potholes. However, cars may have been parked over them. Perhaps Councillor Fisher could provide a diagram or further information and shopping centre management could be contacted.

6. Pavers in main Street in a very filthy condition>

The pavers in Main Street will be cleaned this week with the dirtiest areas being cleaned first. It should be noted that the Cleaning Team has suffered from unanticipated resourcing issues and as such only certain works have been able to be undertaken in the past couple of weeks. However, these issues have been resolved by resource reallocation within the Program and the employment of a temporary employee.

7. Hoskins Avenue - Telstra dug up footpath and still not put back to original state.

The relevant telecommunications contractors have been pursued with relation to the restoration of the footpath in Hoskins Avenue. Council has requested payment to restore this footpath be received. It is anticipated that council will undertake this work immediately upon receipt of payment for this restoration work.

8. Main Street bus sign - no times marked i.e. Saturday and Sunday when no bus is running.

The matter will be investigated further by Councils Road and Safety Officer with relation to the bus schedules for Saturdays and Sundays.

9. Does Council still have their street scrubber and if so, why are we not using it to clean the streets?

QWN - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

1. Mr Mayor the bus sign Councillor Fisher was talking about, is it the one outside of Westfund?
2. Mr Mayor why is the bus sign outside of Westfund now a 24 hour sign? When was it changed? Can a report come back on this change?
3. Mr Mayor are you aware that Police are now issuing tickets to people for parking in this new bus zone?

QWN - COUNCILLOR A E THOMPSON

1. Mr Mayor when Council hires a utility company, do they have to notify Council when they undertake any works in our area? Are we able to get them to put up a bond to cover works not completed?

QWN - COUNCILLOR B S MORAN

1. Mr Mayor can I please table letters from Hartley residents in regards to DA 56/06? Can a report come back to Council on this issue?

The Council moved to suspend orders and move into next meeting.

06- 96 RESOLVED

MOVED: Councillor M J Wilson

SECONDED: Councillor M M Collins.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.