

CAMDEN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES AND SERVICES

14 NOVEMBER 2005

PRESENT

Cr Anderson (Mayor/Chairperson) Cr Cagney, Cr Campbell, Cr Dewbery, Cr Elliott, Cr Funnell, Cr Johnson, Cr Patterson, Cr Whiteman

STAFF

General Manager, Acting Director Governance and Outcomes (Manager Employee and Community Relations), Director Development and Environment, Director Works and Services, Manager Development, Manager Community Services, Acting Manager Outcomes (Snr Project Officer), Manager Environment and Health, Manager Corporate Services, Senior Governance Officer.

- i. Council approve the necessary budget adjustments as identified in the categories of 'Proposed Variations', 'Contra Adjustments' and 'Expenditure Revotes' of this report.
- ii. The budget surplus of \$536,212 be earmarked to fund priority works and issues endorsed by Council following the consideration of a report ('Mini Budget') to be prepared by the General Manager.

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS93/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS02 LEASE TO CAMDEN SPORTS CLUB LIMITED - 22 CAWDOR ROAD CAMDEN

(Councillors Patterson and Johnson having previously declared an interest in this matter, took no part in discussion or voting and left Chamber, the time being 6.23pm)

Resolution:

That Council:

- i. Enter into a lease to the Camden Sports Club Limited for the premises situated at 22 Cawdor Road, Camden for a period of 5 years with an option for a further 5 year period;
- ii. The annual rental to be \$2,200 in the first year with the amount to be indexed and reviewed in accordance with the terms of the lease;
- iii. The lease to be subject to the usual terms and conditions as outlined; and
- iv. The Council Seal be affixed to the necessary documents.

Moved Councillor Campbell, Seconded Councillor Funnell that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS94/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillors Patterson & Johnson returned to Chamber, the time being 6.26pm)

**RS03 ACQUISITION OF LAND FROM COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA -
CAMDEN GOLF CLUB**

Resolution: That:

- i) Council agree to purchase Lots 4, 5 and 7 Deposited Plan 859872 from the Commonwealth of Australia for a purchase price of \$1,600 to be funded from the September, 2005 Budget Review surplus; and
- ii) The Council Seal be affixed to the necessary Contracts for the purchase.

Moved Councillor Elliott, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS95/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS04 INVESTMENT MONIES

Resolution: That:

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy
- (ii) The list of investments for September 2005 be noted
- (iii) The average monthly interest rate return of 5.73% for September be noted

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS96/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

**RS05 ACQUISITION OF EASEMENT - SEWAGE PUMPING STATION -
BRIGALOW RESERVE, BRIGALOW AVENUE, SOUTH CAMDEN**

Resolution: That Council:

- i) Agree to the terms and conditions provided by Sydney Water for creation of an easement within Lot 2 Deposited Plan 59077 Brigalow Avenue, Camden for sewerage purposes, variable width and the compensation payable and authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Deed of Agreement as outlined; and

ii) The Council Seal be affixed to all the necessary documents relating to this matter.

Moved Councillor Funnell, Seconded Councillor Johnson that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS97/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS06 INTEGRAL ENERGY - PROPOSED SUBSTATION EASEMENTS IN CAMDEN LGA

Resolution: That:

i) Council approve the creation of easements for padmount/electrical substations and for underground cables benefiting Integral Energy, at the locations as listed in the Report, subject to and in respect of each site, Integral Energy:

- Providing adequate evidence of community consultation with adjoining residents;
- Preparation of Vegetation rehabilitation Plan;
- Preparation of Graffiti Management Plan;
- Payment of an agreed amount of compensation; and
- Payment of all costs associated with the creation of the easement.

ii) the Council Seal be affixed to all necessary documents relating to the creation and registration of the easements.

Moved Councillor Funnell, Seconded Councillor Johnson that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS98/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS07 CAMDEN TOWN FARM

Resolution:

It is recommended that Council:

- i. Endorse the following vision for the Farm:
"The Farm will be developed and maintained primarily for agricultural, tourism and educational purposes. It will be operated and managed in a sustainable manner that retains its unique character and encourages and facilitates community access, participation and visitation".
- ii. Support the revised proposal to DOTARS to restore the Old Dairy using the remaining unclaimed project funding of \$45,418.00.
- iii. Endorse the following persons to join the Farm's Community Management Committee:
Mr Tony Biffin
Mr Vic Boardman
Mr Hamish Wilson
Mr Jeff Ferrif
Mr Peter Smith
Mr Abraham Peacock

Moved Councillor Whiteman, Seconded Councillor Patterson that the

recommendation as above be adopted.

RS99/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillor Campbell voted against the motion)

RS08 CHRISTMAS IN CAMDEN

Resolution:

MOTION

That Council:

- i. Hire a large Christmas tree at a cost of \$9,500 which includes supply, installation and decoration including waterproof lighting
- ii. Design and purchase 26 Christmas Banners to be erected on light poles in the main street of Camden at a cost of \$6,340.
- iii. Provide direction as to the preferred options to be pursued by staff and these be incorporated into the budget bid process for 2006/2007
- iv. Funding be provided from September Budget Review surplus.

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Patterson
the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS100/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillor Campbell voted against the motion)

RS09 CAMDEN RECREATION AND LEISURE STRATEGY 2005

Resolution:

That Council adopt the Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2005, referenced as Living Spaces Friendly Place & Quality Lifestyles with the minor amendments noted.

Moved Councillor Patterson, Seconded Councillor Elliott that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS101/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS10 CAMDEN BICENTENNIAL EQUESTRIAN PARK COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Resolution: That:

- i. Council endorse the continuation of the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park Community Management Committee.
- ii. Council write to the Committee to advise them of the decision and to congratulate the Committee on their efforts during 2005.

Moved Councillor Whiteman, Seconded Councillor Funnell that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS102/05 MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS11 KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL COUNCIL - 2004 AWARDS

Resolution: That Council note the success at the KABC 2004 Awards and the presentation of the highly commended Award in the Wildlife Corridor and Conservation category.

Moved Councillor Patterson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS103/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS12 TENDER 2005/12 - CAMDEN VALLEY WAY CULVERT AUGMENTATION AT SMEATON GRANGE

(Councillor Johnson having previously declared a declaration of interest in this matter, took no part in discussion or voting and left Chamber - the time being 7.29pm)

Resolution: That:

- i. Council accept the tender provided by TJ & RF Fordham Pty Ltd for the Lump Sum value of \$1,119,191.00 excl GST.
- ii. Authority be granted for the documentation to be completed under the seal of Council.

Moved Councillor Funnell, Seconded Councillor Campbell that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS104/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillor Johnson returned to Chamber, the time being 7.31pm)

RS13 NSW FIRE BRIGADE AND RURAL FIRE SERVICE - ANNUAL BUDGETS

Resolution: That Council:

- i. Note the increased contributions Council is required to make towards the annual operations of both the NSW Fire Brigade and NSW Rural Fire Service.
- ii. Note the nett savings to the 2005/06 Council budget of \$12,472.85 from the anticipated budgeted contributions and the government's advised allocations.

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS105/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS14 RESULTS OF LEGAL ACTION - DOG ATTACKS

Resolution:

That Council note the successful prosecutions under the Companion Animals Act 1998.

Moved Councillor Dewbery, Seconded Councillor Elliott that the recommendation as above be adopted.

RS106/05 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

SUBJECT: APOLOGIES

Leave of absence tendered on behalf of Councillors from this meeting

RECOMMENDED

That leave of absence be granted.

RESOLUTION

There was no leave of absence to be noted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**.

RS91/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council Policy requires Councillors who have a Pecuniary Interest in an item on the Agenda to declare the Interest at this stage and to leave the Meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillors may also use this opportunity to disclose any non-pecuniary interests and to identify how they will be dealing with those interests.

RECOMMENDED

That the declarations be noted.

RESOLUTION

Councillor Patterson declared an interest in Item 2 as Manager of Merino Tavern, Camden.

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in Items 2 & 12 as he has clients involved in these matters.

That the declarations be noted.

Moved Councillor Campbell, Seconded Councillor Elliott that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS92/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS01

SUBJECT: 2005/06 BUDGET - SEPTEMBER REVIEW
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO:

Purpose of Report

To inform Council of the necessary changes to the 2005/06 Budget and to consider other changes put forward for determination.

Summary of Budget Review

The September Review of the 2005/06 Budget indicates a revised forecast of accumulated working funds at the end of the financial year (30/06/2006) of \$1,536,212. This represents a surplus of \$536,212 in relation to Council's minimum working funds level of \$1,000,000.

Chief Financial Officer's Comments

The adopted 2005/06 Budget contained a surplus of \$260,347 as a starting point. This surplus was bolstered by the 2004/05 Budget surplus result of \$420,566 but has since been slightly eroded as a result of several authorised and proposed variations. A summary of the major variations follows:

1. Mount Annan Leisure Centre Water Heating - \$97,787 additional expenditure

Council authorised (Council minute RS 65/05 - 11/7/05) to fund \$97,787 of works related to water heating repairs at Mount Annan Leisure Centre from the 2005/06 Budget surplus.

2. Rates & Related Charges Income - \$87,086 net income shortfall

Council's budget for rates income was framed on the premise that 550 new properties would become rateable at some stage during the 2005/06 financial year. This estimate was in line with previous years' growth (553 in 2002/03 and 525 in 2003/04) however, growth slowed noticeably in the latter part of 2004/05 with a final figure of 369 being recorded as at 30 June 2005.

Based on plans registered as at 30 June 2005, growth of approximately 380 can be expected for 2005/06. As such, it is necessary to revise net rate income downwards by \$87,086. This represents a 0.4% reduction in total rate income.

3. Financial Assistance Grant allocation - \$65,772 income shortfall

As previously reported to Council, the 2005/06 Financial Assistance Grant allocated to Council is \$65,772 below budgeted expectations. A letter outlining Council's concerns regarding this issue was sent to the Minister for Local Government in September 2005.

4. Organisational Salaries & Overheads - \$59,010 reduction in expenditure

A number of staff vacancies during the first quarter has resulted in a minor saving of \$59,010 being identified. This figure was arrived at after allowing for costs associated with casual 'backfill', higher grade pay and temporary consulting/labour assistance.

5. RTA Cycleway & PAMP - \$55,000 additional expenditure

Council authorised (Council minute RS 71/05 - 8/8/05) to match RTA funds of \$55,000 for works related to Cycleways (\$45,000) and the Pedestrian Access Mobility Program (\$10,000). The \$55,000 has been funded from Council's 2005/06 Budget surplus.

The following table is a summary of budget adjustments up to 30 September 2005.

NOTE: All figures reflected in this report are expressed in terms of their impact on Council's budget. In other words;

1. **INCOME: Increases** are expressed as positive figures. **Reductions** are expressed as negative figures.
2. **EXPENDITURE: Increases** are expressed as negative figures. **Reductions** are expressed as positive figures.

Description	Income	Expenditure	Impact on Council's Working Funds
2005/06 Original Adopted Budget	77,650,414	(77,390,067)	260,347
2005/06 September Review adjustments:			
NOTE 1: Authorised Variations	155,225	(308,012)	(152,787)
NOTE 2: Proposed Variations	776,429	(768,343)	8,086
NOTE 3: Contra Adjustments	(3,198,313)	3,198,313	0
NOTE 4: Expenditure Revotes	(2,022,196)	2,022,196	0
Total of September Review adjustments	(4,288,855)	4,144,154	(144,701)
Revised 2005/06 Budget as per September Review	73,361,559	(73,245,913)	115,646
ADD: Balance brought forward from 30/06/05			1,420,566
EQUALS: Estimated Working Funds as at 30/06/06			1,536,212
LESS: Minimum Desired Level of Working Funds			1,000,000
EQUALS: Surplus of funds			536,212

NOTE 1 – AUTHORISED VARIATIONS

This section deals with the budget variations that Council has authorised since the original adopted budget. Council has authorised several budget variations, a summary of which follows:

Description	Income	Expenditure	Impact on Council's Working Funds
Mount Annan Leisure Centre Pool Heating Council Minute RS 65/05 - 11/7/05	0	(97,787)	(97,787)
RTA Cycleway & PAMP project Council Minute RS 71/05 - 8/8/05	55,000	(110,000)	(55,000)
Skateboard Facility Council Minute RS 45/05 - 14/6/05	105,866	(105,866)	0
Waterworth Drive Mt Annan Council Minute ORD94/05 - 27/6/05	(80,852)	80,852	0
Studley Park Drainage Easement Compensation Council Minute RS 51/05 - 14/6/05	107,100	(107,100)	0
Birrawa Reserve Clubhouse Council Minute RS 55/05 - 11/7/05	(50,000)	50,000	0
Auslink Roads to Recovery Program Council Minute RS 49/05 - 14/6/05	18,111	(18,111)	0
TOTAL AUTHORISED VARIATIONS	155,225	(308,012)	(152,787)

NOTE 2 – PROPOSED VARIATIONS

This section deals with proposed budget variations submitted by senior management for Council to consider. These proposed adjustments are primarily based on **actual** income and expenditure trends to date or **forecast** variations to the budget based on information at hand. The following table highlights significant proposed budget variations submitted by senior management and/or recommended for inclusion by the Finance section.

Description	Income	Expenditure	Impact on Council's Working Funds
Rates and related Income / Expenses	(133,086)	46,000	(87,086)
Financial Assistance Grant Income	(65,772)	0	(65,772)
Organisational Salaries and Overheads	(39,096)	97,651	59,010
OH&S Best Practice Incentive Scheme	38,627	0	38,627
Harrington Park / Central Hills Developer Funded Studies	989,270	(954,881)	34,389
Bank Charges & Australia Post Expenses	0	32,406	32,406
Macarthur Group Trainee	0	(30,000)	(30,000)
Fringe Benefits Tax Liability	0	22,857	22,857
Water Sensitive Urban Design Program	0	(22,000)	(22,000)
Information Technology Expenses	0	20,739	20,739
Insurance Premium Expenses	0	18,375	18,375
Bicentennial Park Clubhouse Construction	0	(16,000)	(16,000)
Minor Variations (less than \$15,000)	(13,514)	16,510	2,996
TOTAL PROPOSED VARIATIONS	776,429	(768,343)	8,086

NOTE 3 – CONTRA ADJUSTMENTS

This section deals with all offsetting adjustments between income and expenditure or a transfer of funds between allocations. These adjustments have NO impact on Council's Working Funds as both movements of income and expenditure are of equal value.

The total value of contra adjustments amounts to \$3,198,313 (decrease to both income and expenditure). A breakdown of the major contra adjustments follows:

- **Richardson Rd underground power & Springs Rd Realignment \$4,252,263**

Given the delays Council is currently experiencing with this project it is highly unlikely that the necessary underground cabling will commence prior to 30 June 2006. The realignment of Springs Road will not proceed until such time as the underground cabling is complete. As such, it is necessary to adjust the budget accordingly by deleting these estimates from the 2005/06 Budget

- **Camden Valley Way Augmentation (\$682,000)**

Augmentation works along Camden Valley Way are progressing well with phase 2 funding from Section 94 brought forward to complete the works before 30 June 2006. Refer to the business paper report titled 'Tender 2005/12 - Camden Valley Way Culvert Augmentation' for further details regarding this matter.

NOTE 4 – EXPENDITURE REVOTES

To assist Council in framing a realistic and accurate 2006/07 Budget, Managers and Directors were encouraged to identify any programmed works/projects that will NOT commence or be substantially complete by 30 June 2006.

The following table summarises the suggested revotes as submitted by Managers and Directors for the September Budget Review.

Description	Total Revote	Council Funds	Other Funds
Camden Library Readaptation (Section 94 and Reserve funds)	578,696	0	578,696
Camden Decked Carpark (Loan Borrowings and Reserve funds)	1,443,500	0	1,443,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURE REVOTES	2,022,196	0	2,022,196

APPLICATION OF SURPLUS FUNDS

Councillor Issues and Priorities (Mini Budget)

Given the magnitude of the budget surplus available, it would seem appropriate to allocate a portion of the surplus towards issues and priorities identified by Councillors in a recent discussion with the General Manager.

A separate report listing these issues and priorities together with strategies, actions and costings to address them will be furnished by the General Manager and presented to Council at the Ordinary Council meeting dated 28 November 2005.

RECOMMENDED

That:

- i. Council approve the necessary budget adjustments as identified in the categories of 'Proposed Variations', 'Contra Adjustments' and 'Expenditure Revotes' of this report.**
- ii. The budget surplus of \$536,212 be earmarked to fund priority works and issues endorsed by Council following the consideration of a report ('Mini Budget') to be prepared by the General Manager.**

ATTACHMENTS



September
Review

RESOLUTION

That:

- i. Council approve the necessary budget adjustments as identified in the categories of 'Proposed Variations', 'Contra Adjustments' and 'Expenditure Revotes' of this report.
- ii. The budget surplus of \$536,212 be earmarked to fund priority works and issues endorsed by Council following the consideration of a report ('Mini Budget') to be prepared by the General Manager.

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS93/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS02

SUBJECT: LEASE TO CAMDEN SPORTS CLUB LIMITED - 22
CAWDOR ROAD CAMDEN
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO: 1550.220

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To obtain Council agreement to the lease of the former Camden Bowling Club site to the Camden Sports Club Limited.

BACKGROUND

The Camden Bowling Club has leased a portion of Onslow Park, approximately 8300 square metres, from Council since May, 1953. The most recent renewal of the lease occurred in July, 1999 for a 20 year period. However, in 2000, due to difficult circumstances existing at that time for the Bowling Club, as permitted under the lease, Council agreed to an assignment of the Lease and an amalgamation of the Bowling Club and Western Suburbs Leagues Club (Campbelltown) Limited into a new entity namely, Wests Bowling Club Limited.

This arrangement continued until late in 2002, when Western Suburbs Leagues Club advised of its withdrawal from the arrangement effective on 31st December, 2002. In February, 2003, Council resolved to support the development of a new community based club on the site and negotiations then commenced with several possible tenants. Western Suburbs Leagues Club, in the interim agreed to extend its operation of the Club until January, 2004.

A new community based sports club, The Camden Sports Club Incorporated received a Certificate of Registration under the Registered Clubs Act in February, 2004 and commenced trading as the Camden Sports Club Limited.

MAIN REPORT

Since the take over by the Sports Club, Council staff have been working with the Board of the Club in several areas and in particular a new lease of the facilities. The other area was in relation to the approval of a Place of Public Entertainment (POPE) Licence, which included an upgrade of some of the facilities in the building in order to permit the issuing of such a licence.

As part of the leasing arrangements, as the land is "Community" land under the Local Government Act, 1993, Council is required to place newspaper advertisements in the local media calling for submissions and to notify adjoining owners of the lease proposal. These advertisements appeared and submissions closed in October, 2004. No submissions or objections have been received.

Since that time, officers have continued to work with Club officials and their Solicitor to resolve several leasing issues. Agreement has now been reached between the parties regarding the terms of the lease and the document now requires Council ratification. The details of the proposed lease are as follows:

- Term of the Lease - 5 year period with an option for a further 5 years. This will allow the operation and viability of the Club to be reviewed at the end of the initial 5 year period
- Rent - \$2,200 per annum, exclusive of GST
- Indexation and Rent review - The rental amount will be varied by indexation to changes in the CPI at the beginning of the second year and reviewed at the beginning of the third year. After that, the rent will be varied by indexation and review alternatively at the beginning of each year
- Transfer and sub-letting - The Lessee may not sublet, transfer the lease or part with possession of all or part of the leased premises during the lease period. Any variations to the lease must be referred to Council for consideration
- Standard of Bowling Greens - The two current operational bowling greens must be maintained to competition standard, as determined by a representative of the Southern Tablelands District Bowling Association Incorporated as inspected from time to time
- Insurance - The Lessee must take out and keep up to date Insurance policies relating to Public Liability in the sum of \$10 million, fittings, accessories and stock to the full value of such items against fire and other risks including water, storm and rainwater damage
- Costs - The Lessee is to pay the Lessor's reasonable legal and other costs of preparing, stamping and registering the lease.

CONCLUSION

The previous Bowling Club provided a valuable community service on the site for a period of more than 60 years and Council has been supportive of the Club over this period by renewing successive leases on the site.

After taking into account the long background to this matter and Council's continued expressions of support to the establishment of the community based Club, it is felt Council should again, take a long term view in considering the granting of the lease. The Sports Club has been operating since February, 2004 and while the trading results have been encouraging to date, the Club is still endeavouring to establish a niche within the Camden community and a firm financial footing. The annual rental amount will be indexed and reviewed every second year, thereby allowing Council to better monitor the trading results and financial viability of the Club accordingly. On the basis of continuing to support the Sports Club, it is recommended Council agree to the terms of the lease as outlined above.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- Enter into a lease to the Camden Sports Club Limited for the premises situated at 22 Cawdor Road, Camden for a period of 5 years with an option for a further 5 year period;**
- The annual rental to be \$2,200 in the first year with the amount to be indexed and reviewed in accordance with the terms of the lease;**
- The lease to be subject to the usual terms and conditions as outlined; and**

iv. **The Council Seal be affixed to the necessary documents.**

RESOLUTION

(Councillors Patterson and Johnson having previously declared an interest in this matter, took no part in discussion or voting and left Chamber, the time being 6.23pm)

That Council:

- i. Enter into a lease to the Camden Sports Club Limited for the premises situated at 22 Cawdor Road, Camden for a period of 5 years with an option for a further 5 year period;
- ii. The annual rental to be \$2,200 in the first year with the amount to be indexed and reviewed in accordance with the terms of the lease;
- iii. The lease to be subject to the usual terms and conditions as outlined; and
- iv. The Council Seal be affixed to the necessary documents.

Moved Councillor Campbell, Seconded Councillor Funnell that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillors Patterson & Johnson returned to Chamber, the time being 6.26pm)

RS94/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS03

**SUBJECT: ACQUISITION OF LAND FROM COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA -
CAMDEN GOLF CLUB**
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO: 4950.120

On 9 May, 2005, Council resolved to formally express its interest in acquiring Lots 4, 5 & 7 Deposited Plan 859872, from the Commonwealth of Australia in order to protect the scenic and recreational benefits of the site for the Camden community, following an approach by the Commonwealth. The land to be acquired is currently occupied by Camden Golf Club Limited.

The land comprises approximately 70 hectares and includes the golf course, club house and various other improvements of the Golf Club. The land is leased to the Golf Club until 2098/99. This arrangement will not change as a result of any change in land ownership.

The amount offered for the purchase is \$1,600. The reason for the low sum is that the leases still have 95 years to run and all of the lease payments have been made to the Commonwealth on commencement. As a result, there is no income stream attached to the lease.

During the past few months, the details of the purchase have been finalised with the Commonwealth (Department of Finance and Administration) and through its Solicitor, a contract for the purchase has now been received. The Contract has been perused by Council's Solicitor and has been found to be correct. It is now necessary to obtain formal Council approval to the purchase and to affix the Council Seal to any contractual documents.

RECOMMENDED

That:

- i) Council agree to purchase Lots 4, 5 and 7 Deposited Plan 859872 from the Commonwealth of Australia for a purchase price of \$1,600 to be funded from the September, 2005 Budget Review surplus; and**
- ii) The Council Seal be affixed to the necessary Contracts for the purchase.**

RESOLUTION

That:

- i) Council agree to purchase Lots 4, 5 and 7 Deposited Plan 859872 from the Commonwealth of Australia for a purchase price of \$1,600 to be funded from the September, 2005 Budget Review surplus; and**

ii) The Council Seal be affixed to the necessary Contracts for the purchase.

Moved Councillor Elliott, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS95/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS04

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT MONIES
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO:

In accordance with clause 19 (3a & 3b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1999, a list of investments held by council as at 30 September 2005, is provided.

It is further certified that all investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the relevant regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

The average return on all investments was 5.73% for the month of September.

RECOMMENDED

That:

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy
- (ii) The list of investments for September 2005 be noted
- (iii) The average monthly interest rate return of 5.73% for September be noted

ATTACHMENTS



September
Investments

RESOLUTION

That:

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy
- (ii) The list of investments for September 2005 be noted
- (iii) The average monthly interest rate return of 5.73% for September be noted

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS96/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS05

SUBJECT: ACQUISITION OF EASEMENT - SEWAGE PUMPING STATION -
BRIGALOW RESERVE, BRIGALOW AVENUE, SOUTH CAMDEN
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO: PF5200.130

Some time ago, Sydney Water advised Council of a review and upgrade of its sewage pumping stations in the Camden area in order to reduce the risk of sewage overflows to the environment. Following this review, it was highlighted, an upgrade of the pumping station located in Brigalow Reserve was required so as to meet the guidelines of the Environment Protection Authority. Sydney Water need to acquire an easement over part of the reserve to accommodate these works. The requirement for the creation of an easement for such works on Council land is a routine legal requirement.

The land in question is classified as "community" land under the Local Government Act, 1993 and Council is permitted to grant easements for the provision of public utilities and works associated with public utilities. Sydney Water would fall into this category. Satisfactory public consultation was carried out with adjoining land owners prior to the works commencing in compliance with the Act requirements. Negotiations have taken place and agreement between Council staff and representatives of Sydney Water relating to the scope of the works, location and a rehabilitation and landscaping plan.

As a result, these upgrade works have now been successfully carried out to the pumping station on the reserve.

A Valuation has been completed by the State Valuation Office determining the amount of compensation payable at \$2,500. A survey has also been finalised showing the location of the easement on the land. The proposed easement comprises an area of 249.4 square metres. Agreement has now also been reached on the terms for the creation of the easement and the amount of compensation. All costs for the valuation and survey have been met by Sydney Water at no cost to Council.

To finalise the matter, a Deed of Agreement encapsulating the terms for the acquisition of the easement and payment of the compensation under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act, 1991 has been drawn up and a Council resolution is required to sign and seal the necessary documents. A copy of the survey plan showing the easement, forms an **Attachment** to this report for the information of Councillors.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

i) Agree to the terms and conditions provided by Sydney Water for creation of an easement within Lot 2 Deposited Plan 59077 Brigalow Avenue, Camden for sewerage purposes, variable width and the compensation payable and authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Deed of Agreement as outlined; and

ii) The Council Seal be affixed to all the necessary documents relating to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS



Proposed Easement

RESOLUTION

That Council:

- i) Agree to the terms and conditions provided by Sydney Water for creation of an easement within Lot 2 Deposited Plan 59077 Brigalow Avenue, Camden for sewerage purposes, variable width and the compensation payable and authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Deed of Agreement as outlined; and
- ii) The Council Seal be affixed to all the necessary documents relating to this matter.

Moved Councillor Funnell, Seconded Councillor Johnson that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS97/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS06

SUBJECT: INTEGRAL ENERGY - PROPOSED SUBSTATION
EASEMENTS IN CAMDEN LGA
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO: 1120.50

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To obtain Council resolution to agree to proceed with the granting of seven easements for the upgrading of electrical substation facilities within the Camden Local Government Area.

BACKGROUND

Several meetings have been held between Council and Integral Energy staff in recent weeks to discuss issues relating to the existing electricity supply to Camden residents. Integral Energy is experiencing increased pressure on its infrastructure as load growth in domestic and commercial development in the area continues to increase.

The establishment of new substations in the area is required because the existing facilities supplying residents are overloaded, some by 144%. The peak load occurs each summer resulting in numerous outages, causing disruption and inconvenience to the residents. Integral Energy has been addressing these requirements over the last four years by systematically redesigning the network and installing additional substations.

MAIN REPORT

Integral now advise there are 7 critical sites within the local government area requiring upgrades in order to address the reliability issue for its customers and are requesting Council create easements to accommodate these works. The sites are located in the Narellan Vale, Mount Annan and Harrington Park areas.

The proposed padmount substation locations are:

1. Ironbark Ridge Reserve - Off Welling Drive Narellan Vale;
2. Manna Gum Reserve - intersection of Grevillea Grove & Tallow-Wood Ave, Narellan Vale;
3. Public Reserve - adjacent to Ibis Way, Mount Annan;
4. Public Reserve - Stockmans Drift - near Burnett Avenue, Mount Annan;
5. Public Reserve - Opposite intersection Laneland Circuit & The Boulevard, Harrington Park;
6. Public Reserve - adjacent to intersection of William Campbell Ave & Lachlan Ave, Harrington Park;
7. Public Reserve - adjacent to intersection of Glenrowan Drive, Harrington Park.

Under the Local Government Act, 1993, Council is permitted to "grant a lease, licence or other estate in respect of community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with public utilities." An easement for a substation falls within this criteria. The granting of an easement is not required to be included in a Plan of

Management for the community land, however, Council, does have to comply with the requirements of public consultation and give public notice of the intention to grant an easement.

During the meetings with Integral and subsequent joint site inspections, Council staff have taken into account the following issues:

- Impact on adjoining residents;
- impact on the operations and maintenance of the subject reserve;
- impact on the amenity of the area;
- protection of the existing vegetation;
- landscaping to screen the facility;
- graffiti management, and
- investigation of alternate sites.

As the proponent of the projects, Integral have agreed, in writing, to undertake all necessary consultation and to provide to Council full documentation of the consultation with the adjoining and surrounding residents. Associated works will involve both open trenching and underboring where required, with re-turfing, to minimise disturbances to the area and residents. The substations will also be landscaped to a level acceptable to Council including the planting of native shrubs, such as grevilleas and bottlebrush. The Integral Energy Graffiti Management Plan will also be utilised to respond to public complaints regarding graffiti.

All associated costs for the restorations and landscaping will be at Integral Energy's expense. Integral has also undertaken, in writing, to compensate Council for the establishment of the easements with a market value valuation being prepared by an independent valuer.

Based on this, Integral has contacted neighbouring property owners by way of letters and letter box drops and generally apart from several verbal responses, no submissions have been received.

CONCLUSION

As outlined in the report, Council staff have expended a considerable amount of time in liaisons with Integral regarding these proposed works. Based on the undertakings given and the staff investigations, no objections are raised to the locations of the proposed substations and easements.

Therefore, in order to progress the matter to enable Integral to construct the substations, it is recommended Council approve the location of the various substations and easements as listed, subject to Integral complying with all of Council requirements as undertaken to the satisfaction of Council staff. It is also recommended that should any of the conditions not be met relating to any of the locations, a further report be provided to Council.

RECOMMENDED

That:

i) Council approve the creation of easements for padmount/electrical substations and for underground cables benefiting Integral Energy, at the locations as listed in the Report, subject to and in respect of each site, Integral Energy:

- Providing adequate evidence of community consultation with adjoining residents;
- Preparation of Vegetation rehabilitation Plan;
- Preparation of Graffiti Management Plan;
- Payment of an agreed amount of compensation; and
- Payment of all costs associated with the creation of the easement.

ii) the Council Seal be affixed to all necessary documents relating to the creation and registration of the easements.

RESOLUTION

That:

i) Council approve the creation of easements for padmount/electrical substations and for underground cables benefiting Integral Energy, at the locations as listed in the Report, subject to and in respect of each site, Integral Energy:

- Providing adequate evidence of community consultation with adjoining residents;
- Preparation of Vegetation rehabilitation Plan;
- Preparation of Graffiti Management Plan;
- Payment of an agreed amount of compensation; and
- Payment of all costs associated with the creation of the easement.

ii) the Council Seal be affixed to all necessary documents relating to the creation and registration of the easements.

Moved Councillor Funnell, Seconded Councillor Johnson that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS98/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS07

SUBJECT: CAMDEN TOWN FARM
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO: 4364/3

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The primary purpose of the report is to seek Council's support for a vision for the Farm. Further the report seeks Council's endorsement of a variation to the funding contract with DOTARS and the inclusion of additional members to the Community Management Committee.

The vision identifies the Farm's place in Camden's history and its significance to the town. It suggests uses and activities, the implementation of which will see the Farm maintain its significance and develop into an asset to be enjoyed by the community. Community access and participation, the provision of educational and tourism opportunities are considered central to achieving the vision.

BACKGROUND

Council has previously confirmed its reluctance to support the dairy/milk processing facility that was envisaged for the site and the subject of funding through the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS). Following this decision, Council endorsed the establishment of a Community Management Committee to oversee planning, management and maintenance issues as well as the assessment and recommendation of alternative uses for the Farm.

The committee is now established. One of its priority tasks was to establish a vision for the Farm. It is intended that the vision will guide and direct the future development and management of the Farm. Therefore any proposed future uses and activities must be consistent with this vision.

As outlined in the terms of the bequest, it was always Miss Davies' (the previous owner) intention that the farm be maintained for the benefit and enjoyment of the community. The committee has duly considered Miss Davies' wishes in establishing the vision. Community benefit is balanced with the need for financial and environmental sustainability and the significant constraints of the site.

MAIN REPORT

The Vision ...

The vision for the farm is expressed as follows:

"The farm will be developed and maintained primarily for agricultural, tourism and educational purposes. It will be operated and managed in a sustainable manner that retains its unique character and encourages and facilitates community access, participation and visitation".

The vision, **a copy of which is attached as a supporting document**, contains

specific strategies that promote the following:

1. Fostering of agricultural pursuits and activities.
2. Facilitation of tourism and visitation to the farm.
3. Integration of educational uses and activities.
4. Establishment of best practice environmental management.
5. Heritage conservation and historical interpretation of the site.

More specifically some of the activity areas critical to achieving the vision include:

- The establishment of a 'farm precinct' plan that links buildings, yards, entry/access points, public toilets, signage etc .
- Implementation of a program for the adaptive reuse of existing farm buildings.
- Provision of public toilet facilities on site.
- Erection of appropriate new structures, animal shelters and ancillary buildings as required over time.
- The establishment of appropriate rural tourism activities.
- The renovation and use of the existing cottage for the sale of local produce, visitor centre or tea rooms etc.
- The pursuit of appropriate opportunities to derive income from the property.

The Farm as a Community Asset

In establishing the vision for the farm, the committee considered the following guiding principles:

- The long history of agricultural uses, particularly dairying on the farm.
- The wishes of Miss Davies in leaving the farm to the community.
- The farm's role in Camden's working country town heritage and character.
- Community aspirations for the site.
- How the farm can best be used for education and visitation whilst not being a financial burden on the community.

The established vision sees the continuation of agricultural uses as critical in respecting the farms history and its current role in emphasising the town's rural flavour. It is considered that a balanced approach that sees appropriate commercial opportunities together with community involvement and tourist visitation will provide the necessary opportunities for the farm to be sustainable.

Tourism Potential

Tourism is identified as a significant business development opportunity in Camden. Council has recently adopted and commenced the implementation of a Tourism Action Plan. The program aims to develop the local industry and identifies rural based tourism as a market segment where Camden can potentially capitalise.

Camden and Campbelltown Councils have recently completed a study entitled "***Developing sustainable rural tourism in Camden and Campbelltown***". The study will be reported separately to Council in the near future. The study sought to identify an approach to assist Camden and Campbelltown Local Government Areas to develop a sustainable rural tourism sector. The research indicated a real opportunity for the Farm to be developed as a sought after rural tourist attraction. Some of the potential opportunities relevant for the farm included:

- A model/working farm.

- Agriculture, including horticulture, forestry, crops etc.
- Agricultural education – demonstrations etc.
- Farm activities for children/families.
- Shopping – especially local produce etc.

Over time, it is the view of the committee, that the Farm can be developed into a tourist attraction of regional significance.

Achieving the Vision

The vision contains detailed strategies and actions indicating how it can be implemented over time. Central to any attempts to implement elements of this strategy is of course the availability of funding. The vision includes a funding program based on farm income, visitation, various government grants and any other available opportunities.

Having detailed the vision for the Farm, it is the intention of the committee to formalise a revised project proposal to DOTARS to claim the unused portion of the original federal grant funding of \$45,418.00.

Following recent discussions with the Department and the Federal Member for Macarthur, the Department has advised its willingness to consider a revised submission on condition that it:

- Demonstrates how the revised activities build upon the works already undertaken with Sustainable Regions funding.
- Demonstrates how the revised activities will meet the original project objectives of providing regional environmental and tourism benefits.
- Includes details of how Council's \$100,000 contribution (as committed in the original funding application) to the project will be spent in the revised project.
- Is possible to have the project completed and fully audited by 30 June 2006.

After careful consideration the committee has agreed on the main elements of the revised proposal as follows:

- The restoration and interpretation of the 'Old dairy building (to a level that facilitates visitation but not activity).
- The provision of limited public toilet facilities.
- The provision of entry gates and fencing.
- The establishment of a 'visitor precinct' that includes fencing, gates and walkways etc.

It is intended that the remaining DOTARS funds be utilised for work on the old dairy building, whilst the remainder of the proposal be funded by Council's existing committed funds. Provided that Council is supportive of this direction it is anticipated that the revised proposal will be finalised and submitted to DOTARS by mid-November.

The composition of the Management Committee

The committee, at its last meeting gave consideration to the practicality of the original decision to limit the committee to just six (6) members. This consideration was prompted by the resignation of a previously elected member (Carolyn Evans) and the occasional unavailability of members to attend meetings due to other commitments.

Council originally received twelve (12) expressions of interest to participate on the committee. Given that there is much work to be done to achieve the vision for the farm, the committee resolved to recommend to Council that all persons currently comprising

the 'advisory group' be endorsed as full members of the committee.

CONCLUSION

The vision for the farm outlines the background, history and significance of the property. Importantly it also identifies opportunities for the farm to continue its special relationship to the town of Camden. Whilst a working dairy may not be economically feasible, this need not sound the death knell for the Farm as a viable entity.

Opportunities to maintain the Farm's links with agriculture and farming whilst encouraging visitation and education can still see much of its significance to Camden and its community maintained. It will be the role of its Committee to ensure that the Farm's development takes place in a sustainable manner addressing its considerable constraints, particularly flooding. It is therefore recommended that Council support the community's vision as established through the management committee.

RECOMMENDED

It is recommended that Council:

- i. Endorse the following vision for the Farm:
"The Farm will be developed and maintained primarily for agricultural, tourism and educational purposes. It will be operated and managed in a sustainable manner that retains its unique character and encourages and facilitates community access, participation and visitation".**
- ii. Support the revised proposal to DOTARS to restore the Old Dairy using the remaining unclaimed project funding of \$45,418.00.**
- iii. Endorse the following persons to join the Farm's Community Management Committee:
Mr Tony Biffin
Mr Vic Boardman
Mr Hamish Wilson
Mr Jeff Ferrif
Mr Peter Smith
Mr Abraham Peacock**

ATTACHMENTS

Farm Vision
Supporting Document

RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council:

- i. Endorse the following vision for the Farm:
"The Farm will be developed and maintained primarily for agricultural, tourism and educational purposes. It will be operated and managed in a sustainable manner that retains its unique character and encourages and facilitates community access, participation and visitation".**
- ii. Support the revised proposal to DOTARS to restore the Old Dairy using the remaining**

- unclaimed project funding of \$45,418.00.
- iii. Endorse the following persons to join the Farm's Community Management Committee:
- Mr Tony Biffin
 - Mr Vic Boardman
 - Mr Hamish Wilson
 - Mr Jeff Ferrif
 - Mr Peter Smith
 - Mr Abraham Peacock

Moved Councillor Whiteman, Seconded Councillor Patterson that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillor Campbell voted against the motion).

RS99/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS08

SUBJECT: CHRISTMAS IN CAMDEN
FROM: Acting Director Governance and Outcomes
FILE NO: 3847

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report outlines a number of options available to Council in relation to improving the "Christmas in Camden" atmosphere and presentation together with indicative costs.

BACKGROUND

The celebration of Christmas in Camden is a tradition that is valued by the community. Associated events and activities that focus on Christmas enjoy strong local support.

In recent years the focus of celebrations has centered on:

- The annual "Light-up" event organised by the Camden Main Street Association that is financially supported by Council.
- The Christmas Lights competition for residents who decorate their houses with various themed lighting
- Themed presentation of shop fronts by businesses in the CBD precinct

The "light-up" event officially ushers in the Christmas season and is marked by the switching on of fairy lights that adorn the trees around the John/Argyle Street roundabout. The 'light up' is a successful one-off annual community event, diligently organised by a small but dedicated committee.

However, little else occurs to create a presence across the entire Christmas season. Community feedback continues to suggest that more can and should be done in terms of presentation and atmosphere in the town at Christmas time.

MAIN REPORT

No single promotion, event or display can define or add what is often referred to as "Christmas spirit". This is generally something that is both characterised by and supported through active community participation. If the seasonal atmosphere is to be highlighted and celebrated in Camden, input and support is needed not only from Council but from the various community and business organisations that comprise the local community.

The celebration of Christmas in Camden requires projects and initiatives that will improve the physical appearance of the town such as lighting and decorations. More importantly, however, it requires the 'human' element by way of increased community involvement and ownership. An improved Christmas presentation can be achieved in a number of ways including:

1. Christmas banners to line our main street light poles
2. Wreaths on light poles

- A generator which is noisy and costly to run. The equipment would also be at risk of theft, damage or tampering over the period that it would be running.
- Power running from National Australia Bank Balcony was an option in previous years but caused serious risk as it falls below the height of many trucks.

A more appropriate location for the tree would be the corner of John and Argyle Street in front of the National Australia Bank. A power box is accessible and would pose no risk to pedestrians or passing vehicles.

3. Community participation

There are clear opportunities to engage the community in this project. It is anticipated that schools, service clubs and various other community groups would be willing and capable of contributing their various resources for the benefit of the community. Performances by local bands, choral and theatre groups, various community events, street theatre and appearances by Santa Claus and the like would all contribute to reinforcing the Christmas feel.

An allocated entertainment budget would allow Camden to have a quality program of entertainment running from the Light Up Festival, through to the New Year.

Recurrent Cost **\$5,000**

4. Involving the Business Community

The business community is also an important stake holder in this project. Improving the ambience of the town at Christmas time will attract increased numbers of visitors potentially to shop and socialise. This will benefit businesses in the town centre. A strategy to engage and work with the business community in developing this project also needs to be established.

Council has requested a report in 2006 evaluating;

- The structure of the Main Street Association's Light Up Committee and Council's involvement
- The possibility of an umbrella Camden Community Events Management Committee being established to oversee all major events including Australia Day, Camden Festival and Christmas in Camden.

If this committee were to be established it would allow the Main Street Association, Chamber of Commerce, Council and other community organisations to participate and contribute to the organisation of a Christmas Program of events to run over approximately a month including carols, dances, busking and live bands.

Other options

There is a possibility of a number of other options including;

- Christmas Wreaths that have fairy lights for night time
- Fairy lights running through Jacarandas
- Heritage Building frames being lit up at night

However difficulties arise in accessing power. Council Officers are currently in discussions with Integral Energy as to the feasibility of such options. Advice from Integral Energy will inform the feasibility of options for the future.

In relation to the fairy lights running through the Jacaranda trees, it would be appropriate to engage an aborist to form an opinion as to whether the Jacaranda trees could support the lights (in terms of their current size and maturity).

Funding

There is currently no provision for funding any of the above mentioned projects in Council's annual budget. Ideally funding could be approached by way of a shared responsibility between Council and the business community of the Camden CBD. Alternatively, some of the cost could be funded through ward funds or Council's budget surplus.

The capital projects represent an opportunity to beautify and promote the town and in turn increase visitation and trade. Further strategies to involve the community and town centre businesses need to be established.

CONCLUSION

The options discussed provide Council with a variety of alternatives to improve the Christmas presentation in Camden both in terms of impact and duration. The installation of banners is achievable in 2005. Further investigation and allocation of funds would be required in order to pursue other options in 2006.

Council needs to work with the business community and adopt a partnership approach to this and other town centre beautification initiatives. Further work needs to be carried out to bring these, or other initiatives, to fruition.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. Design and purchase 30 Christmas Banners to be erected on alternate light poles in 2005 at a cost of \$8,000.
- ii. Provide direction as to the preferred options to be pursued by staff and these be incorporated into the budget bid process for 2006/2007.

RESOLUTION

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Patterson
the recommendation as above be adopted.

MOTION

That Council:

- i. Hire a large Christmas tree at a cost of \$9,500 which includes supply, installation and decoration including waterproof lighting
- ii. Design and purchase 26 Christmas Banners to be erected on light poles in the main street of Camden at a cost of \$6,340.
- iii. Provide direction as to the preferred options to be pursued by staff and these be incorporated into the budget bid process for 2006/2007
- iv. Funding be provided from September Budget Review surplus.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillor Campbell voted against the motion)

RS100/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS09

SUBJECT: CAMDEN RECREATION AND LEISURE STRATEGY 2005
FROM: Director Works and Services
FILE NO: 4929

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Council's Draft Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2005, referenced as *Living Spaces Friendly Place & Quality Lifestyles* was referred for public consultation and this process has been concluded. This report recommends the adoption of the modified Strategy.

BACKGROUND

The Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2005 was prepared through internal consultation, the background from the University of Technology's, School of Leisure Sport and Tourism, Camden Recreation Demand Study 2004, consultation with a range of community groups, and surveys. The draft was discussed in a Councillor workshop and referred for public consultation at its meeting of 14 June 2005.

After a five week consultation process, concluding on 23 September 2005, two submission were received. The Strategy is now before Council for formal adoption.

MAIN REPORT

Two submissions were received regarding the content of the Strategy, one a private submission and the other representing the Camden Active Seniors Program (**Copy of submission is provided with the Supporting Documents**) :

Comment on the grammar, spelling errors and syntax within the document were referenced	The appropriate corrections have been made.
Mount Annan Botanic Garden lies mainly within the Camden LGA, potentially an outstanding facility for leisure but it is extensively under-utilised. A Parliamentary Committee of Enquiry recommended that entry should be free for Seniors, which was rejected by the Minister. An alternate way to encourage usage would be to grant free entry to local residents.	This comment is to be taken up through another forum.
What about small parks?	The continued needs, maintenance standards, and content of small parks are referred to in the Strategy.
How will the intent of the Strategy be planned and actioned?	Now that public input has been received on the Strategy's goals an Implementation Plan will be generated for action by Council and will involve all stakeholders. This Plan will be generated with the involvement of both internal and

	external stakeholders.
How will Camden work in partnership with the community?	The community in the preparation of the Strategy's Implementation Plan.
Working with local neighbourhoods to develop and maintain local parks, expressly the role of community development strategies and volunteering to build and re-build community networks to create local partnerships in neighbourhoods	The need to involve the community in the development of existing and new communities, and practices are in place to fully involve the community, across a range of ages and ethnic groups, in planning and usage of our parks, reserves, buildings and services.
Referring to cycleways implies that such facilities are solely used by cyclists, rather than shared pathways which is a more descriptive term for pedestrian and cyclist usage	It is agreed that in building "shared pathways" there is a demonstrated approach to provide for both user groups. Our shared pathways will be constructed and signed in this manner to meet Australian Standards.

CONCLUSION

The comments received regarding the Draft Recreation and Leisure Strategy were positive towards the aims, content and approach of this document. The Strategy, referenced as *Living Spaces Friendly Place & Quality Lifestyles* is therefore recommended for adoption by Council. **A copy of the final Strategy has been delivered to Councillors.**

RECOMMENDED

That Council adopt the Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2005, referenced as *Living Spaces Friendly Place & Quality Lifestyles* with the minor amendments noted.

ATTACHMENTS



Camden
Leisure Strategy.com

RESOLUTION

That Council adopt the Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2005, referenced as *Living Spaces Friendly Place & Quality Lifestyles* with the minor amendments noted.

Moved Councillor Patterson, Seconded Councillor Elliott that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS101/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS10

SUBJECT: CAMDEN BICENTENNIAL EQUESTRIAN PARK COMMUNITY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
FROM: Director Works and Services
FILE NO: 4842

Purpose of Report

This report seeks Council's endorsement to continue the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park Community Management Committee.

Background

At Council's meeting held on 11 October 2004 Council resolved that:

" (i) Council adopt option 2 - a fully functioning 355 Community management Committee with equestrian and community membership with full care, control and management for an initial trial period of 12 months starting form 1st January 2005."

Main Report

To assist the Committee an induction session was held on 1 December 2004 to provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities and to provide information pertaining to the management and operation of the park to assist with the smooth transition for the Committee management. The Committee also held its first Annual General meeting on 1 December 2004.

Since assuming responsibility for the Park management the Committee have worked diligently to progress the development of the Park, and have worked with Council officers to ensure the final elements of the Sustainable Regions Grant were implemented. The work associated with the grant has been completed with the official opening scheduled for Saturday 19 November 2005.

The Committee has undertaken to provide six (6) monthly updates on their activities and progress. The first report was provided to Council in August 2005 which outlined a range of achievements including:

- providing advice and a recommendation to Council for the draft fees and charges schedule for 2005 / 2006;
- providing \$70,000 from the \$100,000 allocated by Council in the 2005/2006 financial year to the Park for the completion of the Clubhouse facilities at the Park;
- continued construction of an amenities block at the Polocrosse/ rodeo/ campdrafting area;
- participated in the development of the Camden RSL Community Memorial Walkway, which includes portions of the Bicentennial Equestrian Park; and
- assisting the organisers of the National Polocrosse Titles, scheduled for October 2006.

The Committee has also undertaken to *'prepare a five year development program for implementation of the Master Plan'*.

The Committee wrote to Council on 13 October 2005 requesting that *"the future of the Committee should be raised with Council, with a view to it being extended for twelve months or possibly longer, to enable continuity in programming and development of the Park."*

A copy of the letter is contained in the **Business Paper Supporting Documents**.

Conclusion

The Committee has demonstrated, over the past 11 months, a commitment to the development of the Park and has worked in a diligent and co operative manner to achieve this. With the completion for works associated with the Sustainable Regions Grant the Committee will now have the opportunity to further progress the park and its promotion with the additional facilities in place.

RECOMMENDED

That:

- i. **Council endorse the continuation of the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park Community Management Committee.**
- ii. **Council write to the Committee to advise them of the decision and to congratulate the Committee on their efforts during 2005.**

ATTACHMENTS



CBEP Mgt
Committee letter

RESOLUTION

That:

- i. Council endorse the continuation of the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park Community Management Committee.
- ii. Council write to the Committee to advise them of the decision and to congratulate the Committee on their efforts during 2005.

Moved Councillor Whiteman, Seconded Councillor Funnell that the recommendation as above be adopted.

MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS102/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS11

SUBJECT: KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL COUNCIL - 2004 AWARDS
FROM: Director Works and Services
FILE NO: 3118, 3764

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of Camden's recent achievements in the Keep Australia Beautiful - 2004 Awards.

BACKGROUND

Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) held the presentation of their annual awards for 2004 on the weekend of 21-23 October, 2005 at Gulargambone. At this presentation Camden Council was awarded a Highly Commended in the Wildlife Corridor Category, against strong competition.

Council entered five categories of this year's competition, which was judged earlier this year.

Council's submission entitled "Bring Back the Bush" concentrated on the work Camden Council had done to foster the development on a number of its parks and reserves; particularly:

- Gundungurra Reserve
- Master Planning of the Spring Farm area to develop the riparian reserve
- Nepean Cycleway
- Kings Bush

Through this planning Council will ultimately achieve an unbroken chain of reserves from Camden through to the Mount Annan Botanic Gardens providing the community a range of recreation experiences and securing important natural resources for future generations.

Council was unable to be represented at this year's presentation in Gulargambone, instead the award was presented to the Mayor recently by the KABC Awards Co-ordinator in Camden.

A copy of award winners has been **distributed under separate cover for Councillors** information.

The overall Tidy Towns winner was Singleton where next year's presentation shall be held.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the success at the KABC 2004 Awards and the presentation of the highly commended Award in the Wildlife Corridor and Conservation category.

RESOLUTION

That Council note the success at the KABC 2004 Awards and the presentation of the highly commended Award in the Wildlife Corridor and Conservation category.

Moved Councillor Patterson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS103/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS12

SUBJECT: TENDER 2005/12 - CAMDEN VALLEY WAY CULVERT
AUGMENTATION AT SMEATON GRANGE
FROM: Director Works and Services
FILE NO: 4911

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report advises Council that Tender 2005/12 – Camden Valley Way Culvert Augmentation at Smeaton Grange has closed and now seeks to approve the recommended Contractor.

BACKGROUND

Augmentation of the existing three cell culverts along Narellan Creek under Camden Valley Way was raised in the 2004/2005 Capital Works Program to alleviate the flooding upstream within the Smeaton Grange Channel and as part of the Harrington Park Water Quality Management System.

The project was revoted to the 2005/2006 Capital Works Program due to a number of delays extending from design coordination with governing bodies (i.e. DIPNR, NSW Fisheries, RTA).

The project is funded through the Section 94 Contribution Plan No. 3 Narellan Creek Catchment.

MAIN REPORT

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (Tendering) Regulation 1999, Council initiated an open tender process for the Camden Valley Way Culvert Augmentation at Smeaton Grange.

Council advertised the Tender information from 15 August 2005 to 23 September 2005. Contract documentation, specifications and plans were made available to interested contractors.

Tenders closed on 26 September 2005.

During the course of the Tender period Council Officers held an open tender meeting for all tenderers on 15 September 2005 at its Narellan Office to aid tenderers in their submission and allow open discussions and clarification of any issues.

Tenders Received

At closing of the tender period, Council received the following submissions:

Contractor	Cost	Comment
Clogher Excavations Pty Ltd	\$1,624,985.00	
TJ & RF Fordham Pty Ltd	\$1,279,521.00	
JGE Earthmoving Pty Ltd	\$865,271.39	Withdrawn 14/10/05
Kingston Civil Constructions	\$1,444,288.51	(Actual summation is \$1,608,710.00)

Note: All prices exclusive of GST

The prices are those received at close of tender.

Assessment of the tender submissions was undertaken by Council staff and was based upon the following criteria:

- Lump Sum Price
- Understanding of Scope
- Contract Management, QA Systems, and Staff details
- OH&S
- Similar past projects
- Program

Through the tender comparison process and review of the submitted quantities and pricing the tender submissions of Clogher Excavations Pty Ltd and Kingston Civil Constructions were eliminated.

Camden Council made contact with TJ & RF Fordham and JGE Earthmoving to clarify a number of ambiguities relating to its tender submission.

Council received a response from JGE Earthmoving Pty Ltd advising that they were withdrawing their tender submission on 14 October 2005.

In response to Council's queries TJ & RF Fordham identified a quantity error within its tender submission relating to vegetation maintenance. Council requested a revised schedule with the corrected quantity amount submitted. The adjusted Lump Sum price for undertaking the works is **\$1,119,191.00 excl. GST.**

Council requested a tender interview with TJ & RF Fordham on 13 October 2005 to confirm all aspects of the tender documentation had been provided for within the tender submission.

Council's 2005/2006 Capital Works budget has allocated \$1,232,000 (confirmed at tonight's budget meeting report RS01) for this project.

CONCLUSION

Based on the review of the Tender submissions and following the assessment process, TJ & RF Fordham Pty Ltd provided the most viable tender submission. They provided a conforming Tender relative to the works and have undertaken many similar works within the industry. They are locally based and have first hand knowledge of the work site and a clear understanding of the constraints and risk of works within the Narellan Creek System.

RECOMMENDED

That:

- i. Council accept the tender provided by TJ & RF Fordham Pty Ltd for the Lump Sum value of \$1,119,191.00 excl GST.
- ii. Authority be granted for the documentation to be completed under the seal of Council.

RESOLUTION

(Councillor Johnson having previously declared a declaration of interest in this matter, took no part in discussion or voting and left Chamber - the time being 7.29pm)

That:

- i. Council accept the tender provided by TJ & RF Fordham Pty Ltd for the Lump Sum value of \$1,119,191.00 excl GST.
- ii. Authority be granted for the documentation to be completed under the seal of Council.

Moved Councillor Funnell, Seconded Councillor Campbell that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

(Councillor Johnson returned to Chamber, the time being 7.31pm)

RS104/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS13

SUBJECT: NSW FIRE BRIGADE AND RURAL FIRE SERVICE - ANNUAL BUDGETS
FROM: Director Works and Services
FILE NO: 583 & 584

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Council is required to provide contributions to the operating costs of both the NSW Fire Brigade (NSWFB) and NSW Rural Fire Service (NSWRFS) operations within the Camden LGA.

This report advises of the contributions based on the budgets set for both services by the NSW State Government. The Treasurer and Minister for Emergency Services have recently advised Council's contributions for the 2005-06 year.

NSW Fire Brigades

Under Section 50 of the Fire Brigades Act, local government contributes 12.3% of the NSW Fire Brigade's aggregate expenditure.

The NSWFB estimates it will spend \$478,811 in the Camden Fire District in 2005-06. Camden Council's 12.3% contribution to this service is \$58,894.

This sum exceeds last year's contribution of \$54,958 by 7.16%, and this year's anticipated budgeted contribution of \$57,705 by \$1,189 (2.06%).

NSWFB cited no reason for the increase in the operating budget for the service to be provided within Camden LGA.

NSW Rural Fire Service

Similarly the NSWRFS has advised that the 13.3% contribution Council is required to contribute toward the operation of the Camden RFS for 2005/06 will be \$118,741.15 based on the government's approved budget allocation of \$661,468.62 for Camden RFS Fighting Fund. This sum exceeds last year's contribution of \$111,085.59 by 6.45%. However the sum is less than the advised and budgeted sum of \$132,403 by \$13,661.85.

The NSWRFS advises the changes are to "continue the Government's commitment to the rural fire fighting movement and in particular to the upgrading of the tanker fleet".

This year's allocation provides no budget item towards station improvement.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. Note the increased contributions Council is required to make towards the annual operations of both the NSW Fire Brigade and NSW Rural Fire Service.**
- ii. Note the nett savings to the 2005/06 Council budget of \$12,472.85 from the anticipated budgeted contributions and the government's advised allocations.**

RESOLUTION

That Council:

- i. Note the increased contributions Council is required to make towards the annual operations of both the NSW Fire Brigade and NSW Rural Fire Service.
- ii. Note the nett savings to the 2005/06 Council budget of \$12,472.85 from the anticipated budgeted contributions and the government's advised allocations.

Moved Councillor Johnson, Seconded Councillor Whiteman that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

RS105/05

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

RS14

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF LEGAL ACTION - DOG ATTACKS
FROM: Director Development and Environment
FILE NO: PF435.10, PF6800.100 & PF1300.390

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful outcome of three (3) prosecutions under the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1998.

BACKGROUND

On 11 July, 2005 Council resolved to instigate legal action against the owners of five dogs in relation to three (3) separate and non related incidents where serious injury was occasioned to other animals.

All three matters came before Magistrate Andrews at Camden Local Court during October 2005. Council was represented by Ms Holt of Caldwell Martin & Cox Solicitors as well as Council's Companion Animals Officer and Council's Animal Control Officer. Briefs Of Evidence were prepared by Council's Officers which were tendered to the Court setting forth the facts of the case, together with a description of the seriousness of the incidents and the impact on the owners of the victims.

MAIN REPORT

The following is a summation of the cases and the results at Court.

1. On 18 May, 2005 two dogs were attacked which resulted in one small dog being euthanased due to the severity of his injuries as a result of an attack by two (2) male Mastiff Cross dogs in Mary Howe Place, Narellan Vale.

The owner of the two (2) male Mastiff Cross dogs was convicted for each offence and was fined \$300.00 under Section 13 in relation to the dog not being under effective control, and \$600.00 under Section 16 in relation to the offence of the dog attacking another animal. The maximum penalties for each offence are:- Section 13, \$550.00, and Section 16, \$1,100.00. The defendant was also ordered to pay \$400.00 in professional costs within 28 days.

2. On 4 May, 2005 seven (7) sheep were attacked and killed by a female Rottweiler dog in Rossmore Crescent, Rossmore. Some of the sheep had to be euthanased by the Police who also attended the incident.

The owner of the Rottweiler dog was convicted for each offence and was fined \$300.00 under Section 13 in relation to the dog not being under effective control, and \$500.00 under Section 16 in relation to the offence of the dog attacking other animals. The defendant was also ordered to pay \$200.00 in professional costs within 28 days.

3. On 19 May, 2005 an Australian Blue Cattle dog was killed as a result of a fight when two (2) Pitbull Terrier dogs entered an adjoining premises by digging under

the fence in Camden Valley Way, Narellan.

The owner of the Pitbull Terrier dogs was convicted and was fined \$800.00 under Section 16 of the Companion Animals Act 1998 in relation to the dog attack, \$110.00 under Section 8 for the dogs not being permanently identified and \$110.00 under Section 9 for the dogs not being registered. The maximum penalties for each offence are:- Section 16, \$1,100.00, Section 8, \$550 and Section 9, \$550. The defendant was also ordered to pay \$65.00 court costs for each offence as well as \$250.00 in professional costs. All payments are to be made within 28 days of the hearing.

CONCLUSION

The three separate prosecutions were successful with all Defendants convicted. The total income to Council from penalties will be \$2,720.00, however Council's professional costs amount to \$4,840.30. The issue of costs awarded by the Court in relation to matters brought before it continues to be an issue despite Council's legal representatives pressing for realistic costs being awarded to reflect the time involved in preparation of the cases.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the successful prosecutions under the Companion Animals Act 1998.

RESOLUTION

That Council note the successful prosecutions under the Companion Animals Act 1998.

Moved Councillor Dewbery, Seconded Councillor Elliott that the recommendation as above be adopted.

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

RS106/05

**THE MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2005 WERE ADOPTED AT AN ORDINARY COUNCIL
MEETING HELD 28 NOVEMBER 2005. MIN. NO. 18/06**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Anderson", written in a cursive style.

CHAIRPERSON