NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 8 FEBRUARY 2023 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

The following Questions With Notice have been received from Cr Jablonski: -

1. What knowledge does Council have of a State Government proposal to build a large battery bank in the proximity of Andonbel, Dappo Rd, Narromine?

Response from Director Community and Economic Development: -

Council has been requested to provide input into the State Significant development proposal at 426 Dappo Road, Narromine for a Battery Energy Storage System of 125 MW/250 MWh included associated infrastructure to connect to the existing Essential Energy 132 kV substation located on the adjacent lot. The proposal is at the preparation of an EIS stage.

Further information can be found on the planning portal at: -

https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/narromine-battery-energy-storage-system

2. Why is there no efficient access to water in case of fire in Tomingley? Why was no access point installed when the water treatment works were built at Tomingley?

Response from Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services: -

Tomingley has a RFS brigade with a rainwater tank. The RFS can also pump water from the two dams located at the water treatment plant. Council could consider the provision of hydrants during future water reticulation network upgrades and/or an offtake at the water treatment plant. Council will meet with the RFS in the near future to discuss different water supply options.

3. What is happening with pigeon control? There is a massive increase in pigeons along the river and around High Park Reserve.

Response from Director Governance: -

Contractors undertook a control in Trangie in mid-November 2022. The Contractor determined that the birds are moving around from place to place and would require further control on a larger community scale i.e. grain storage sites and farmers would need to get together to control the issue as they will relocate themselves again once they start filling the silos and storage sheds. There is no budget allocation for further pigeon control.

4. What is happening with weed control and garbage collection on Council reserves?

Response from Director Governance: -

Council in conjunction with Central West Local Land Services is undertaking exotic weed control in the riparian areas of various reserves as part of Riparian Restoration Grants. Other reserves are monitored for high risk weed species in accordance with Council's commitments within the Weeds Action Plan 2025. Commitments include control actions.

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The reserves where rubbish bins are located are inspected on an ad hoc basis, and rubbish and orphaned waste is removed when required. Any increase in the level of service would require additional budget allocation.

5. Is the new development on Dappo Road (Blue Wren) back on track following the stripping of power cords, and what stage is it up to?

Response from Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services: -

Work to fix the damage is complete and the power outage is book for connection. Other works are near practical completion.

6. At what stage is Council up to with the Return and Earn facility?

Response from Director Community and Economic Development: -

Council has entered into a contract for the Return and Earn facility and is currently working through details of installation.

7. As I was not paid my allowance for the November meeting because flood waters isolated me, what happens to the allotted funds and how it is accounted for?

Response from Director Governance: -

Budget allocations are adopted annually by Council. Any unspent funding may be reallocated through the Quarterly Budget Review process.

8. What is the time frame for the replacement of trees in Merilba Street near Cale Oval, Meringo Street near the school and the corner of Minore and Temoin Streets and the corner of Terangion and Temoin Streets?

Response from Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services: -

Council's policy is to plant the most appropriate tree species based on site suitability, aesthetic, functional and biological attributes, performance and the potential to contribute to the landscape character.

Trees that have been removed close to intersections or corners will not be replaced due to road user safety.

Ideally trees are planted in Autumn during the dormant season or in early spring when weather conditions are cooler. Timing of the plantings will also be dependent on availability of quality nursery stock.