

# NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL



# **PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

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**PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY  
FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 2 MAY 2006.**

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# **PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

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**1. NOXIOUS WEEDS – RAILROAD CORRIDORS (AC:AC) [ENG] E30/14005**

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**Purpose**

To seek approval for the Director of Engineering Services to write to the Minister of Primary Industries requesting that the Australian Rail Track Corporation be issued with a weed control notice to control weeds along railroad corridors in both Narrabri Shire and the geographical areas represented by NIWAC.

**Background**

The Northern Land Weeds Advisory Committee (NIWAC) is an advisory body comprised of 10 Local Control Authorities (Councils and County Councils) and 6 Rural Land Protection Boards.

At the February 2006 meeting of NIWAC members expressed concern about the inadequate level of weed control work being undertaken by the Australian Rail Track Corporation to control weeds along its railroad corridors.

NIWAC has requested that all members write to the Minister for Primary Industries to request the Minister to issue a weed control notice to the Australian Rail Track Corporation to address problem weed areas in the geographical area represented by NIWAC as follows:

*“Dear Ian,  
Subject: Railroad Corridors and Noxious Weeds*

*It was raised at the most recent quarterly meeting, 15 February 2006 that the railroad corridors throughout the region are not being adequately treated for noxious weeds. The railroad corridors are currently managed by the Australian Rail Track Corporation, and as a public authority the local control authorities do not have the power to issue weed control notices. I ask that your Council gives this matter some consideration and apply to the Minister of Primary Industries to have this situation rectified.*

*The Noxious Weeds Act 1993 as amended, Section 13 states that “A public authority that is an occupier of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order, to the extent necessary to prevent the weeds from spreading to adjoining land.:*

*Section 21 states that “A local control authority may recommend to the Minister that a weed control notice be given by the Minister to a public authority or another local authority”.*

*Please don't hesitate to contact me for further information regarding this matter, or any of the other NIWAS initiatives.*

*Yours faithfully,  
Maria Woods  
Chair  
Northern Inland Weeds Advisory Committee”*

**Current Position**

There are railroad corridor locations in Narrabri Shire where focused weed control efforts would be appreciated. Weed control in adjoining and distant Shires is very important as they can be the source of new and unwanted infestations.

**Policy Implications**

Nil.

**Financial Implications**

Nil.

**Legal Implications**

Nil.

**Commentary**

Further information on NIWAC can be obtained from its website [www.niwac.org](http://www.niwac.org).

**Conclusion**

Nil.

<p><b><u>RECOMMENDATION:</u></b> That Council write to the Minister of Primary Industries requesting that the Australian Rail Track Corporation be issued with a weed control notice to control weeds along Railroad corridors in both Narrabri Shire and the geographical area represented by NIWAC.</p>
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**2. NARRABRI LAKE – TREE PLANTING, STAGE 2 (AC:AC) [ENG] R20/08001**

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the planting of 200 native trees on the eastern side of Narrabri Lake by Narrabri Community Bushcare Group Inc.

**Background**

Narrabri Community Bushcare Group Inc, have recently planted and maintained 45 trees between the waters edge of Lake Narrabri and Mooloobar Street.

Narrabri Community Bushcare Group Inc has advised it has successfully applied for and won a Grant from Mitre 10 which will fund the purchase and establishment of 200 trees.

Council's Community Facilities Manager and Parks & Gardens Coordinator identified a number of criteria that would allow Council to consider approving future plantings.

These were:

- No vegetation to be planted in flood ways;
- The groups would commit itself for a period of 2 years to care for planted trees;
- Trees were to be spaced at a minimum of 6m to ensure mowing equipment could traverse the area relatively easily;
- The plantings would not interfere with the activities of the Narrabri Pony Club.

**Current Position**

The group has written to Council seeking approval to commence planting these trees during May 2006 along the eastern side of Narrabri Lake (Stage 2) and have acknowledged the criteria above in their proposal, see letter and map in Attachment 1.

Council has been supportive of previous efforts of Narrabri Community Bush Care Group Inc.

Council also supports the provision of land for the recreational needs of Narrabri Pony Club.

**Policy Implications**

Nil.

**Financial Implications**

The proposed planting may affect the time taken to mow around Lake Narrabri. If this occurs minor adjustment to the scheduled rate in the tender will be required. In the long term the effort, area, and frequency of mowing may diminish if grass growth is suppressed by mature vegetation.

**Legal Implications**

Nil.

**Commentary**

The Parks & Gardens Coordinator will liaise with Narrabri Community Bushcare Group Inc to ensure that plants are located in suitable positions within Stage 2.

**Conclusion**

Nil.

<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> That Council approve the proposal by the Narrabri Community Bushcare Group Inc., to plant 200 local native species along the eastern edge of Narrabri Lake, referred to as Stage 2 in the proposal.
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**3. REPORT OF THE TENDER PANEL HELD ON FRIDAY, 21 APRIL 2006**  
**(AMM:KAB) [CORP] T10/05007**

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**PRESENT:** Mr IR McCallum (General Manager), Mr AM Magner (Director Corporate Services), Mr PJ Keech (Director Engineering Services), Mr PW Ward (Contracts Coordinator), and Mr AR Croft (Manager Community Facilities).

**APOLOGIES:** Nil

**THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 4.30PM.**

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**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/08 – MOWING & SLASHING NARRABRI T10/09052**

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To view the Report and Attachment presented to the Tender Panel, please see Attachment 2 and Attachment 3.

**RESOLVED:** That Council accept the Tender from Narrabri Mowing Service for Contract No. 2006-07/08– Mowing & Slashing Narrabri and that authority be granted to the Mayor and General Manager to sign the relevant documents under the Common Seal of Council.

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**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/07 – MOWING & TRIMMING SPORTING OVALS IN NARRABRI T10/09051**

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To view the Report and Attachment presented to the Tender Panel, please see Attachment 4 and Attachment 5.

**RESOLVED:** That Council accept the Tender from Narrabri Mowing Service for Contract No. 2006-07/07 – Mowing & Trimming Sporting Ovals in Narrabri and that authority be granted to the Mayor and General Manager to sign the relevant documents under the Common Seal of Council.

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**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/10 – MOWING, SLASHING & TRIMMING AT THE NARRABRI AERODROME T10/09054**

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To view the Report and Attachment presented to the Tender Panel, please see Attachment 6 and Attachment 7.

**RESOLVED:** That Council accept the Tender from Narrabri Mowing Service for Contract No. 2006-07/10– Mowing, Slashing and Trimming at the Narrabri Aerodrome and that authority be granted to the Mayor and General Manager to sign the relevant documents under the Common Seal of Council.

**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/09 – SLASHING SURFACE DRAINS & HEADWALLS****T10/09053**

To view the Report and Attachment presented to the Tender Panel, please see Attachment 8 and Attachment 9.

**RESOLVED:** That Council accept no tenders for Contract No. 2006-07/09 – Slashing Surface Drains & Headwalls.

**RECOMMENDATIONS****CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/08 – MOWING & SLASHING NARRABRI****T10/09052**

**RECOMMENDATION 1:** Council accept the Tender from Narrabri Mowing Service for Contract No. 2006-07/08– Mowing & Slashing Narrabri and that authority be granted to the Mayor and General Manager to sign the relevant documents under the Common Seal of Council.

**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/07 – MOWING & TRIMMING SPORTING OVALS IN NARRABRI****T10/09051**

**RECOMMENDATION 2:** That Council accept the Tender from Narrabri Mowing Service for Contract No. 2006-07/07 – Mowing & Trimming Sporting Ovals in Narrabri and that authority be granted to the Mayor and General Manager to sign the relevant documents under the Common Seal of Council.

**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/10 – MOWING, SLASHING & TRIMMING AT THE NARRABRI AERODROME****T10/09054**

**RECOMMENDATION 3:** That Council accept the Tender from Narrabri Mowing Service for Contract No. 2006-07/10– Mowing, Slashing and Trimming at the Narrabri Aerodrome and that authority be granted to the Mayor and General Manager to sign the relevant documents under the Common Seal of Council.

**CONTRACT NO. 2006-07/09 – SLASHING SURFACE DRAINS & HEADWALLS****T10/09053**

**RECOMMENDATION 4:** That Council accept no tenders for Contract No. 2006-07/09 – Slashing Surface Drains & Headwalls.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5.15PM.**

Mr IR McCallum

**GENERAL MANAGER**

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL THAT WAS HELD  
IN THE NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM, 46-48 MAITLAND STREET, NARRABRI, ON TUESDAY,  
2 MAY 2006.

**4. COMMUNITY FACILITIES MONTHLY UPDATE  
(AC:AC) [ENG]****FILE NUMBER****Purpose**

To advise Council on current activities and forthcoming developments within the Community Facilities Section. Future monthly reports to update Council on the current status of the Community Facilities budgets.

**Background**

This is first of what will be a regular monthly report.

**Current Position*****Staffing***

Miss Sue Williams commenced as the Community Facilities Compliance Coordinator 10 April 2006. Sue will be based in the new Depot facility.

The two Trainee Gardener positions and Weeds Trainee position within Community Facilities Section have been advertised and filled. Josh Orman, Michael Earle, and Scott McFarlane (weeds trainee) were the successful applicants and commenced on 20 April 2006.

The position of Parks and Gardens Ganger, Narrabri has been advertised, and application closed on Friday, 21 May with six applications received.

Two 'Work for the Dole' program participants will assist the Narrabri Parks & Gardens staff maintain the Old Narrabri Cemetery for 2 days per week for a period of six months (commencing late April 2006).

***Aerodrome***

The updated Aerodrome manual has been prepared and submitted to CASA for certification. This will permit the continued operation of QANTAS flights after 1 May 2006.

The Aerodrome security upgrade program funded by the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) has commenced. The program included the installation of security fencing, an alarm system, and improved lighting of the apron, terminal building, and car park. The majority of the work is being performed by local businesses.

A DOTARS inspector visited the Aerodrome to inspect the facility as part of the Departments audit program for Regional Aerodrome's, no serious concerns were raised.

The Manager Community Facilities attended an invitation only Regional Terrorism training exercise run by the NSW Police Service and DOTARS in Mudgee (Operation "Eagles Nest"). The exercise provided an opportunity for participants to observe police respond to two aircraft hijacking scenarios, and provided opportunities to interact with other Local Government Aerodrome Managers.

### *Parks & Gardens*

Soft fall beneath playground equipment in Collins Park has been installed. The installation of soft fall will progress to other Parks. Installation at this location was disrupted due to staff illness and concurrent Nosh on the Namoi commitments.

Despite the irrigation system being marked a number of exhibitors at Nosh on the Namoi drove steel tent pegs through the water lines, this tied up staff for a number of days to repair lines.

Litter and vandalism to fencing surrounding Leitch and Hogan Ovals is a daily maintenance problem at the skate park. The skate park facility is now regulated by a booking system with public access to the facility not permitted during booked periods.

Gately Fields: The small areas not yet fully grassed (closest to the Cooma Road bridge) have been reseeded. If this is not successful consideration will be given to turf it. This area received a very thick covering of topdressing as part of the levelling process.

The mowing tender has closed and analysis has been completed.

Once the new depot is completed and open the Narrabri Parks & Gardens staff will move most of their equipment from the shipping container to the depot. These staff members will then commence their normal work day from this location.

Problem tree removal using a contracted cherry picker has and continues to be undertaken across the Shire.

The Grandstand at No.1 oval is leaking water. An insurance claim will be lodged for this structure to repair damaged areas within the structure and prevent the leaks. The missing panels located at the top of the seating area are being repaired by J&H Windscreens Narrabri and installation is anticipated in early May 2006.

### *Waste Management*

Asbestos removal works were undertaken at the Wee Waa tip. Invoices from contractors are still being received. The cost of removing the friable asbestos was towards the high end (\$65K) of the forecast range.

During the course operations the adjacent green waste pile was identified to be contaminated with bonded asbestos. This material was also buried. Staff are attempting to operate a quarantined green waste system to minimise the size of any future problem when asbestos waste is dumped.

Asbestos has been a common news item in recent weeks at the National level most notably following the destruction of houses at Innisfail, Queensland.

An anonymous complaint from a member of the public was lodged with both WorkCover NSW and the NSW Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) about the asbestos removal program. A WorkCover inspector visited the site and did not identify any issues. DEC will discuss the complaint during a future routine visit to the Shire.

The doors to the main shed at the Yarrie Lake Road facility were damaged during a recent storm. Waste facility staff designed and then replaced the damaged roller door with a smaller panel door which will much less likely to be storm affected.

Council in conjunction with Challenge Narrabri will have a waste exhibit at both the Narrabri and Wee Waa shows.

The New waste cells at Narrabri is nearly ready for opening. The pump should be ready for delivery and installation by the second week in May and the cell fully operational.

### *Swimming Pools*

Now closed.

The swimming period was extended slightly following requests to allow school children to continue to train for the NSW State titles.

### *Noxious Weeds*

The annual 2 day aerial inspection program has been completed for the east of the Shire. The Chief Weeds Inspector from Gunnedah kindly assisted with the inspection program.

A Weeds display will be present at both the Narrabri and Wee Waa shows.

### **Policy Implications**

Nil.

### **Financial Implications**

Nil. Budget summary will form part of future reports.

### **Legal Implications**

Nil.

### **Commentary**

Nil.

### **Conclusion**

<b>RECOMMENDATION 1:</b> That Council note the information regarding the Community Facilities Section monthly report
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**5. WATER SERVICES MONTHLY WORKS UPDATE  
(MWS:MWS) [ENG]****C70/05001****Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the current status of the 2005/2006 budget for the Water Services Branch, providing a brief description of the works carried out during the last month and the works that are planned for coming month.

**Background**

This is a regular monthly report.

**Current Position**

A detailed breakdown for each centre is included as Attachment 10. The figures have been extracted from the financial database "Powerbudget" as at 21 April 2006, at which time there was 19% of the financial year remaining.

Progress on Capital Projects is provided via a current extract from Council's GEKO database. (refer Attachment 11)

**Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

The individual fund operational expenses are listed in the following table showing their percentage expended and the difference against the yearly percentage of 81%.

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>Percentage Expended</b>	<b>Percentage Difference</b>
Saleyards	97	+16
Bellata Water	65	-16
Boggabri Water	83	+2
Gwabegar Water	81	0
Narrabri Water	77	-4
Pilliga Water	78	-3
Wee Waa Water	99	+18
Boggabri Sewer	71	-10
Narrabri Sewer	76	-5
Wee Waa Sewer	72	-9

**Legal Implications**

Nil

**Commentary****Saleyards**

- Stock Numbers sold through the Saleyards for March were 5,403 head of cattle. The Monthly Summary has been included (refer Attachment 12).
- Truck wash usage for March was 12,453 minutes.

**Water**

- Water produced in each system for March was as per the following table;

System	Kilolitres pumped for March	Kilolitres pumped for February	Kilolitres pumped for 2005/06
Narrabri	268,196	218,987	1,764,428
Wee Waa	84,241	83,330	526,278
Boggabri	33,679	29,841	207,440
Bellata	3,324	5,218	28,193
Pilliga	3,364	4,139	23,479
Gwabegar	1,401	1,759	9,902

**Sewer**

- The volume of sewerage treated in each system for March was as per the following table;

System	Kilolitres treated for March	Kilolitres treated for February	Kilolitres treated for 2005/06
Narrabri	61,365	63,067	579,479
Wee Waa	13,509	13,876	124,705
Boggabri	3,973	3,712	39,316

Water and sewerage responses to customer service requests (CSR's) during March included;

- Water Services staff responded to 11 requests for service regarding sewer.
- Water Services staff responded to 36 requests for service regarding water.

Activities carried out in March included;

- Water Services staff commenced a water main renewal in Bowen St Narrabri, between Nandewar St and Reid St.
- A length of collapsed sewer main was reconstructed in Bowen St Narrabri at the rear of the Narrabri Courthouse/ Old Gaol.

**Conclusion**

Nil

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION:</u></b>	<b>That the information regarding the Water Services Branch monthly update be noted.</b>
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# NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL



# ATTACHMENTS

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PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY  
FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 2 MAY 2006.

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# ATTACHMENTS

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