



DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

15th November 2005

DCS3 ELECTION OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES FILE: 198 PJH

SUMMARY:

To elect community members to serve Council's committees for the next 12 months.



Council at its meeting on 13th September 2005 when conducting its review of the community members of committees resolved as follows: -

- "1 That Council declare all community member positions on committees vacant and invite existing community members to nominate to serve again on the committees and advertisements be placed seeking expressions of interest from any other residents who are interested in serving on the committees that have community members.*
- 2 The nominations received be referred back to Council for appointment or election. In the interim period prior to appointment by Council, the previous community members would need to serve on the committees."*

Advertisements were placed over a three (3) week period during October seeking nominations. Existing members were contacted either verbally or in writing and advised that they would need to nominate again if they wished to continue to serve on their committees.

Macleay Development and Promotion and Ecological Sustainable Development Committees not advertised

The advertisement did not include the Macleay Development and Promotion as this committee's constitution provides for members to serve a four (4) year term where half the membership is renewed each two (2) years.

The Ecological Sustainable Development Committee was not advertised as this Committee had not yet met for reasons beyond the control of the committee members and it would be unreasonable to declare their positions vacant. It will be recommended that the community members of this committee for that reason be re-appointed for the next 12 month term.

The community members of the Ecological Sustainable Development Committee are: -

Mr R Gammon

Ms J Sproule

Ms R Kytola

Mr B Ramke

Mr R Barnett

Mr D Head

Ms Alison Brown

Mr K Hill

Mr J Jeayes

The following listing shows the Committees that were advertised, the number of community members sought (based on past numbers), nominations received and any relevant comment.

Aboriginal Liaison Committee (4 members)

Judy Blomfield

Betty Mumbler

Bellbrook Sewerage Liaison Committee (3 members)

Nil

Comment: This committee meets infrequently and existing members have attended very few meetings. The Acting Director Shire Services advises that it was unlikely that any meetings would be convened in the next 12 months and any appointments could be deferred until the next review in 12 months.

Coastal and Estuary Management Committee (3 members)

Mick Foster

Malcolm Ptolemy

Howard Lee

Jenny Kelly

Comment: An election is required if the membership to remain at 3 community members.

Kempsey Local Ranking Committee – Area Assistance Scheme (5 members).

Maria Reason

Mavis Symonds

Kempsey Masterplan Implementation Committee (2 members)

Ian Flood

Kevin Ball

Local Heritage Committee (2 members)

John Russell
Billie Crawford

Macleay Floodplain Project Committee (7 members)

Mick Foster
Terry Parkhouse
Desmond Brady
Howard Lee

Comment: Other former members did not seek re-appointment and no new nominations were received.

Macleay Flood Risk Management Committee (2 members)

Nil.

Comment: This committee has two (2) community members, one from the Lower Macleay and one from the Aboriginal community. While no nominations were lodged the former members Geoff Barsby and Phillip Ballangary have been contacted verbally and are willing to serve again. It is recommended that they be asked to accept re-appointment.

Kempsey Regional Livestock Committee (5 members)

Ian Argue
Harry Borger

Comment: Council has resolved that the membership of this committee no longer include a representative from each licensed agent as a voting member, but such representatives be invited to attend the Kempsey Regional Livestock committee meetings as observers. Therefore Ian Argue, being employed by Kempsey Stock and Land cannot be appointed as a community member. The other former members have been contacted and asked to submit a nomination but at the time of writing this report only one (1) nomination had been received.

South West Rocks CBD Masterplan Implementation Committee (5 members)

David Maxwell
Kevin Ball
Steve McEvoy
Peter Hadlow
Graham Eagleton

Stuarts Point Sewerage Liaison Committee (4 members)

Ian Tolson

Comment: The Acting Director Shire Services advises that while this committee has met infrequently there would be matters for

this committee to discuss over the next 12 months. As no new nominations received it is recommended that the former members (including Mr Tolson) be asked to accept re-appointment. These former members were Chris Nelson, Ian Tolson, Terry Parkhouse & Russell Bowen.

West Kempsey Community Renewal Project Advisory Committee (5 members)

Margaret Ridgeway
Wallace Hardy
Karen Hardy
Stan Riley
Cathy Turnbull
Elizabeth Cohen
Wendy Cohen

Comment: While this committee had five (5) former community members, the Co-ordinator would welcome additional community members should Council consider appointing the seven (7) nominations received.

Willawarrin Sewerage Liaison Committee (3 members)

Nil

Comment: This committee meets infrequently and existing members have attended very few meetings. The Acting Director Shire Services advises that it was unlikely that any meetings would be convened in the next 12 months and any appointments could be deferred until the next review in 12 months.

Number of committee members to be determined by Council

While the number of community committee members sought has been based on the previous numbers of community members serving on the particular committees, Council may determine the number.

In 2004 Council resolved that the number of community members to be elected not exceed the previous number that served on the committees.

A copy of the nominations received for all the committees advertised have been attached at [\(Appendix C, Pt 1, Pt 2, Pt 3\)](#).

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice the election of committee members shall be by open voting with each Councillors vote recorded in the minutes.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- *Social*

The community involvement in committees is an important part of Council's consultation process whereby the community has input into Council's decisions.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The financial impact of having community members is minimal in that they serve on a voluntary basis and are not remunerated in any way by Council.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Council policy C24:13 covers "Council Meeting Arrangements" specifically covers arrangements for committees that include members who are not councillors. This policy had previously provided for all community members of committees to serve for a four (4) year term in conjunction with the four (4) year Council term. Council altered this policy at the September 2005 meeting to allow for community member positions to be declared vacant each 12 months. This will mean the process of advertising, nominations and elections will have to be conducted each year.

It does appear from the poor response to the advertising process that former members were not clear on the decision taken by Council and its affect on their term of office as community members.

- *Directors Review*

Council appointed the Councillor, and staff representatives to Committees at its meeting on 13th September 2005. This report covers community member representatives. The matter of agency / organisation / Department representation on Committees has not been considered to date. Last year each Committee reviewed their total membership and made recommendations to Council on their agency / organisation / Department representation.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1 That the existing community members on the Macleay Development and Promotion Committee continue to serve in accordance with the constitution of that committee.

- 2 That the former community members of the Ecologically Sustainable Development Committee be re-appointed for the ensuing 12 month period.
- 3 That the former members of the Stuarts Point Sewerage Liaison Committees be re-appointed for the ensuing 12 month period.
- 4 The appointments of the community members to the remaining committees listed in the report be determined by election.
- 5 That the agency / organisation / Department representative on the various Council committees be in accordance with existing membership.

.....

G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES