



NOTICE OF MOTION

12th September 2006

NOM1	KEMPSEY SHOWGROUND
	FILE: LA2942 CLR JHB

I hereby give notice that I intend to move the following motion at the Ordinary meeting of Kempsey Shire Council to be held on Tuesday, 12th September 2006.

"That Council facilitate a meeting with representatives of the Kempsey Showground Trust, the Regional Manager Department of Lands and Mr Andrew Stoner, MP Member for Oxley to discuss the future management of the Kempsey Showground."

NOTES:

HISTORY

1999

- Council considered a report on the future management of the showground. Resolved an urgent deputation to the Minister for Lands.
- Further report following meeting with representatives of Department of Lands, Showground Trust and Council.
Resolved:
 - A to determine the minimum amount of funding required to bring Showground buildings up to standard and that Council take over trusteeship with a grant to that value (\$140,250)
 - B a plan of Management be prepared
 - C that an application be made to change the status of the showground to Recreation area.
- Submission to Minister for Lands stating a benefit to the Showground of Kempsey Shire Council's accepting trusteeship would be reduced costs for the insurance of buildings. Another advantage would be access to other funding sources such as sport and recreation funds Section 94 contributions and the Sports Facility Voucher System which recognizes work in kind with real dollar contributions

2000

- Minister advises of a proposal for alternative funding – the sale of reserve land with proceeds to be allocated to the showground – proposal did not proceed

2002

- Report on progress – revised estimate \$195,500.
- Talk of multi-purpose indoor sport facility and siting of Slim Dusty Museum
- Minister invited to inspect Kempsey Showground – Not accepted

2004

- Plan of Management prepared “The Kempsey Showground is a vital community asset which has the potential to be developed to provide greater community facilities and funding. The implementation of this plan of management will contribute to improved management and maintenance of the facility whilst promoting the Kempsey Showground as a multi-functional facility which can be utilized for the benefit of the whole community”.
- Mayoral minute – Meeting with Minister to re-examine Council’s submission of 2002.

2006

- Mayoral Minute – Reference to Showground Trust having access to Caravan Park Levy (this could only occur if showground was under the care, control and management of Kempsey Shire Council)
- Minister advised that Department would investigate other means of financing the necessary improvements needed at the showground.
- It is understood that the management of Crown Reserves throughout New South Wales will be reviewed over the next two years

Current Position

- Showground administered by a trust comprising of three community members. In calling for expressions of interest from Community members to be appointed to the trust only one enquiry was received. As per NOM June 2006.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

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Matters concerning the Heritage listing of the buildings, the area of land which was the subject of landfill and that area affected by flooding will require consideration.

- *Social*

The Showground is one of the icons of the Macleay Valley and is a facility which provides for the social and cultural amenity of the community. The membership of the Showground Trust has waned in recent years to such an extent that its continued operation is in jeopardy.

The allocation of funding to upgrade the Showground will create employment as well as address and improve the quality of the facility making it more accessible for a range of present and future potential users.

- *Economic (Financial)*

There are no direct financial impacts upon Council, other than the administrative resources required to facilitate a meeting between the bodies as described in the motion. The cost is estimated at \$100.00.

The long term benefit to the community would justify this cost.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

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COUNCILLOR J H BOWELL