



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DELEGATE'S REPORT

12th December 2006

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| DR1 | "BUILDING THE MACLEAY" WORKSHOP CONVENED BY THE MACLEAY LANDCARE NETWORK |
| | FILE: 242 JHB {Folio No. *} |

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the attendance of Deputy Mayor Councillor John Bowell at a meeting held a Crescent Head of the "Building the Macleay" workshop by the Macleay Landcare Network held at the Wombat Conference Centre, Crescent Head on Friday 17th November 2006.

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DESCRIPTION:

Staff representatives from Sustainable Development Services and Macleay Water and myself, attended the workshop "Building the Macleay – Through Forging Partnership's convened by the Macleay Landcare Network.

The primary focus of the workshop was to establish directions and partnership opportunities to address natural resource management issues and funding opportunities.

A number of guest speakers such as Ms Judy Henderson (Chair Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority), Mr Peter Milner (Mid North Coast Area Consultative Committee) discussed possible funding programs that could be utilised to undertaken natural resource projects. In addition, Ms Henderson identified the important role that Local Government has to offer in natural resource management and indicated that the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority was looking forward to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with Kempsey Shire Council on dealing with and managing the shire environments.

The issues of riparian vegetation management along with Macleay River and its tributaries was raised , with a consensus from the forum that measures should be put in place to prepare a strategic and collaborative approach to addressing the issues. It was proposed that a further workshop be convened to commence the process.

The workshop was a fruitful and positive forum with a future agenda being set to implement strategies and partnerships to address natural resource management and to investigate funding opportunities for the betterment of the Macleay catchment. Copies of the publications "Stock and Waterways Management" will be distributed to landholders.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

There will be no significant negative environmental impacts as a result of the workshop. The objective of the Workshop was to identify and establish opportunities to achieve positive environmental outcomes.

- *Social*

There will be no significant social impacts resulting from the workshop.

- *Economic (Financial)*

There will be no significant economic imposition imposed on Council and/or the community of the Shire. A key component and objective of the workshop was to identify possible funding opportunities to assist Council and community groups to undertake natural resource management projects and programs.

- *Policy or Statutory*

The Catchment Management Act 2003 & Catchment Management Plans

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council as a stakeholder supports the Macleay Landcare Network by attending future meetings.

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COUNCILLOR J H BOWELL