



DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

3rd February 2009

DCCS8	ELECTION OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES
	FILE: 198 PJH

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the nominations received from community members to serve on Council's committees.

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DESCRIPTION:

Council at its meeting on 11th November 2008 determined its Committee structure and following this Expressions of Interest were advertised for persons to represent the community on a number of Council's committees. The Expressions of Interest allowed 28 days for nominations.

Community member nominations were sought for the following committees:-

Aboriginal Liaison Committee	4 members
Coastal & Estuary Management Committee	3 members
Companion Animal Advisory Committee	4 members
Kempsey Masterplan Implementation Committee	2 members
Local Heritage Committee	2 members
Macleay Floodplain Project Management Committee	3 members
Macleay Flood Risk Management Committee	2 members
South West Rocks CBD Masterplan Implementation Committee	4 members

Some nominations received were from organisations not individuals e.g. Kempsey Chamber of Commerce nominated 2 persons to represent them on the Kempsey CBD Masterplan Committee and Macleay Landcare Network nominated a person to represent it on the Coastal and Estuary Management Committee and Macleay Floodplain Project Committee. These nominations will be referred to the relevant committees to determine their agency/organisation representatives.

The following listing shows the Committees, the number of community members sought and nominations received. A brief summary of information (if any) provided with the nomination is shown.

Aboriginal Liaison Committee (4 members)

Judy Blomfield - former member of committee, non-indigenous person but has an interest in this committee and wishes to continue serving as a member.

Coastal and Estuary Management Committee (3 members)

Malcolm Ptolemy - former member, would like to continue.

Howard Lee - former member, would like to continue.

Margaret Lucas - involved in Killick Creek through position on Crescent Head Chamber of Commerce and interested in other creeks and waterways on the Macleay.

Companion Animal Advisory Committee (4 members)

Vanessa Standing – former member, veterinarian with special interest in animal welfare issues. Life member of RSPCA. Lived in Kempsey Shire for 30 years.

Marguerite Gray - former member, would like to continue.

Kempsey Masterplan Implementation Committee (2 members)

No community member nominations received.

Local Heritage Committee (2 members)

Bruce Caldwell - former member, resident of Stuarts Point, interested in local history and heritage, would like to continue. Works as volunteer at Stuarts Point Library.

Macleay Floodplain Project Committee (3 members)

Howard Lee - former member, would like to continue.

Tom Welsh - resident of Kempsey Shire since 2002 living now in River Street. Formerly land owner in Hastings River area for many years. Would like to contribute something back to the environment.

Macleay Flood Risk Management Committee (2 members)

Geoff Barsby - former member. Was a councillor involved in Flood Mitigation matters from 1968 to 1978. Would like to continue.

Tom Welsh - resident of Kempsey since 2002, living very close to Macleay River in River Street. Concerned with silting up of river and its repercussions in future flooding. For last 5 years served as volunteer with St Vincent de Paul disaster relief.

Ivan Sillitoe - former member representing Macleay Acid Sulphate Soil Local Action Group (MASSLAG), land owner in Belmore River area with knowledge of flooding in Kempsey Shire.

South West Rocks CBD Masterplan Implementation Committee (4 members)

Peter Hadlow - former member, would like to continue.

Robert Ryan - resides and owns property in CBD of SWR and serves as President of SWR Chamber of Commerce. Has worked with Council on CCTV feasibility study group. Has contracting experience with lighting and electrical reticulation in CBD areas including Belconnen, Canberra and Nowra.

Review of Membership of committees

Council's policy on Committee Meeting Arrangements (C24:13) states that all committee membership shall be declared vacant at the end of each Council term of office. Since the election Council has appointed its new Councillor delegates on 16 December and this meeting will appoint the community members. What should also be reviewed is the other membership of each Committee being organisation, agency or Government representatives that have voting rights on the committees.

Being in the beginning of this Council term it would be appropriate for each Committee to now review its full membership (its voting delegates) and then report this to Council for confirmation.

Where fewer community nominations were received for the number sought the committees in the review can determine whether they need to seek further community representation.

Amendment to Policy C24:13 – Committee Meeting Arrangements

Council's policy C24:13 covers those committees that include members who are not councillors. A copy of this policy is attached at [\(Appendix E – Page J29\)](#). Note that Clause 2 of this policy states: -

“At the commencement of each Council term of office, nominations shall be invited from interested community members for appointment to positions on the various Council/community committees for the ensuing four (4) year term of the Council.”

Council on 11 November 2008 resolved in part: -

“That each committee and delegate representation be reviewed on an annual basis.

That the membership and efficacy of each committee be reviewed as necessary.”

It is therefore recommended that clause 2 of policy C24:13 be amended in accordance with Council's resolution to state: -

“At the commencement of each Council term of office, nominations shall be invited from interested community members for appointment to positions on the various Council/community committees with each committee and delegate representation to be reviewed by Council on an annual basis and the membership and efficacy of each committee to be reviewed as necessary.”

Committee members to be elected by open voting

Clause 5.22(8) of Council's Code of Meeting Practice states that the election of committee members shall be by open voting with each Councillors vote recorded in the minutes.

RECOMMENDATION 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 (provision of agendas and minutes) in that they serve on a voluntary basis and are not remunerated in any way by Council.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Council policy C24:13 "Committee Meeting Arrangements" covers arrangements for committees that include members who are not councillors.

- *Directors Review*

As per report.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That Council appoint by election its community delegates to its committees.
2. That policy C24:13 - Committee Meeting Arrangements be amended as recommended in the report.
3. That each of Council's committees conduct a review of their full membership and report this back to Council for confirmation.

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