



**muswellbrook  
shire council**

**Muswellbrook Shire Council  
EXTRA ORDINARY COUNCIL  
MEETING**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER  
12 NOVEMBER 2019**



# Order of Business

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## 7 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

### 7.2 MUSWELLBROOK AQUATIC CENTRE UPGRADE - EARLY AND INVESTIGATION WORKS PROGRAMME

<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Derek Finnigan - Director - Community Infrastructure
<b>Author:</b>	Dennis Fernandes - Projects Manager - Property & Building Services
<b>Community Plan Issue:</b>	<i>Continue to improve the affordability, livability and amenity of the Shire's communities</i>
<b>Community Plan Goal:</b>	<i>Promote and facilitate increased participation in active and passive recreational activities.</i>
<b>Community Plan Strategy:</b>	<i>Continue the delivery of passive recreation and cultural activities in libraries, aquatic centres and the arts centre.</i>

#### PURPOSE

To report to Council on the Early and Investigation Works Programme at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre including the planned demolition of the outdoor Learn to Swim and Baby pools.

#### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The information contained in this report be noted.

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

#### BACKGROUND

The planned Early and Investigation Works Programme is to facilitate the investigation of the leaks of the outdoor 50m pool and assist in expediting the redevelopment of the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre upgrade - Contract No. 2016-2017-0276 to meet grant funding timeframes.

The 90 year old 50 m pool at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre (Ruth While Memorial Pool) has ongoing issues around excessive use of water during the summer season.

There have been many investigations into the cause of the outdoor pools water loss. This has included scuba divers, pressure tests, and most recently core sampling to assure Council that the concrete structure was sound.

The current water usage can be attributed to both evaporation and an unidentified leak in either the pool or the pipework associated with the pool.

#### CONSULTATION

General Manager

Director- Community Infrastructure

Manager Works Property and Building

Aquatic Centre Manager

Recreation and Building Officer

**CONSULTATION WITH COUNCILLOR SPOKESPERSON**

Consultation with Councillors is ongoing.

**REPORT**

Significant features of the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre Upgrade project is grant funded from the NSW Government Stronger Country Communities Fund. These include the 'Water Activity Park' and the 'Learn to Swim (LTS) and Therapy Pool projects'.

Council was successful with the water park funding in the first round of the grant programme and the LTS in the second round, with approval received in late 2018. However, the approval of funding required Council to amend its development application plans for the upgrade of the Aquatic Centre accordingly to accommodate the Learn to Swim and Therapy pool facilities. Council submitted the development application which included both grant funded projects in January 2019.

The development approval process for the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre Upgrade did take longer than expected due to the need to meet new fire service requirements that could not be met with the existing town water supply. A consent determination was made only in September 2019.

In order to manage the project efficiently, it is necessary that the 'Learn to Swim and Therapy Pool' is completed in parallel with the construction of the 'Water Activity Park'. Council's Principal Design Consultant (PDC) under contract has called tenders for these upgrade works closing 9 December 2019.

The planned Early and Investigation Works Programme includes demolition of the outdoor LTS pool and baby pool and adjacent pavements, relocation of services, and pressure testing of the 50 m outdoor pool.

There are a number of clear benefits in proceeding with this programme including:

1. This demolition package can be undertaken without a Construction Certificate – critical to the timing of the project at this stage of the year;
2. Commencement of the project will allow for retention of current grant funding;
3. It will allow for isolation of the 50 m pool to then undertake pressure testing of the 50m outdoor pool – this narrows down the potential leakage points that need to be identified; and
4. Demolition of these pools and concourse will provide exposure of the underlying ground – thus eliminating further unknowns and latent conditions from the upgrade contract works – currently out to tender. This main contract is expected to be awarded before the Christmas break to allow for construction to commence mid-January next year.

An Independent consultant (BCRC Pty Ltd) was recently engaged to take core samples of the pool to assess the integrity of the concrete walls and floor of the 50m pool, prior to opening the facility for the summer season of 2019/20.

BCRC performed the following tasks for each test location as part of the assessment:

- Visual inspection of reinforcement;
- Cover survey; and
- Concrete core testing for cement content and chloride ingress determination.

The condition assessment found that at most core locations, at the reinforcement depth the chloride concentration at the 5% characteristic cover depth was below the lower bound chloride corrosion threshold limit which mean the corrosion risk due to chloride ingress is very low.

The condition assessment revealed that the concrete properties across the structure are quite variable; however overall, the condition of the concrete and internal reinforcement is quite good.

BCRC's advice regarding the residual service life of the reinforced concrete structure based on the tests carried out of that is at least a further 25-year. This assumes that the pool will be lined with an impermeable membrane. This advice received from the consultant does not address the risks of water

leakage from the pipe, systems around and between the pools. However, the planned programme will assist in narrowing the identification of leaks.

Next steps to follow will include the preparation of a Communication Plan advising the community of the planned and the benefits associated with the works.

### **OPTIONS**

The closure of the LTS and Baby pools needs to occur to allow for the capital works programme funded to progress. It could be delayed but it is not recommended.

### **CONCLUSION**

The planned Early and Investigation Works Programme will assist with removing unknown site conditions and investigate source of water leaks for the outdoor pool.

### **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Aquatic Centre upgrade would benefit all ages with the young and old both utilising the pool, gym and sauna facilities. The aquatic centre would be a place to socialise and stay. This will have a positive impact to people's social and physical wellbeing.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The capital budget allocation for 2019/20 is \$4,134,625.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil known.

### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil known.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil known.

### **OPERATIONAL PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

'4.1.4 Deliver the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre upgrade,' *Operational Plan 2019-2020*.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed programme will reduce the risks in meeting the grant funding timeframes, facilitate identification of the outdoor pool leaks and eliminate further unknowns and latent conditions from the main contract for the construction of the Aquatic Centre upgrade.

## 8 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

### 8.4 CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Fiona Plesman - General Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Joshua Brown - Manager - Integrated Planning & Governance
<b>Community Plan Issue:</b>	<i>A Council that is well managed, efficient and properly resourced and that is responsive to its communities and stakeholders</i>
<b>Community Plan Goal:</b>	<i>Maintain a strong focus on financial discipline to enable Council to properly respond to the needs of the communities it serves.</i>
<b>Community Plan Strategy:</b>	<i>Appropriate matters are reported to Council in a timely manner in accordance with the Financial Control and Reporting Policy.</i>

#### PURPOSE

To report to Council a request for funds to support the Muswellbrook Christmas Spectacular for 2019.

#### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

**Council support the Christmas Spectacular for 2019 as a sponsor with a contribution of \$6,000 allocated from the sundries donation budget.**

**Moved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### BACKGROUND

Council has previously provided financial support towards the Muswellbrook Christmas Spectacular and a request has been received from the organisers Radio Hunter Valley (2NM and Power FM) for a funding contribution for this year's event.

#### CONSULTATION

General Manager

#### REPORT

Radio Hunter Valley (2NM and Power FM) has sought a funding contribution of \$6,000 towards the 2019 Christmas Spectacular, which will be held at the Muswellbrook Showground on 14 December 2019. Council has sponsored the event in previous years, which has attracted significant visitor numbers and public goodwill.

It is recommended that Council sponsor the event for 2019, which will be acknowledged by the organisers in promotional material and content. The cost of the sponsorship is able to be met from the Sundries Donations allocation in the 2019/20 budget.

#### OPTIONS

1. It is recommended that Council sponsor the event with a contribution of \$6,000; or
2. Councillors may elect not to sponsor the event or to grant an alternative amount.

**CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council support the 2019 Christmas Spectacular.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Christmas Spectacular provides the community with an exciting and entertaining experience for all ages as part of the festive season. It contributes to social cohesion and inclusion.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The amount requested can be met from the Sundries Donations allocation within the 2019/20 budget, which currently has \$19,000 available. This will reduce the amount available for distribution under the community grants program planned for the first half of 2020.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

The Local Government Act permits donations and sponsorships of this type.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

No known legal implications.

**OPERATIONAL PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

**RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

No known risk management implications.

## 9 ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED COUNCIL

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a Confidential Session of the Council meeting closed to the press and public.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adjourn into Closed Session and members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the Closed Session, and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution. This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:**

#### **10.6 CONTRACT 2019-2020-0392 - CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW NETBALL COURTS**

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**Moved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded:** \_\_\_\_\_