



**muswellbrook
shire council**

Muswellbrook Shire Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER

9 MAY 2017



Order of Business

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12 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

12.5 SPORT AND RECREATION LARGE CAPITAL GRANTS ROUND 1

Attachments:	Nil
Responsible Officer:	Fiona Plesman - Acting Director - Planning, Community & Corporate Services
Author:	Ren Rogers - Communications & Grants Officer
Community Plan Issue:	<i>Provide community infrastructure and services that supports and improves community connectivity, access and wellbeing</i>
Community Plan Goal:	<i>That our community infrastructure is appropriate, sustainable and well maintained</i>
Community Plan Strategy:	<i>Develop new recreational and sporting assets</i>

PURPOSE

The first round of Council's Sport and Recreation Large Capital Grants Program has now closed. Seven applications were received from sporting groups within the Shire. This report provides the relevant detail of these applicants and makes a recommendation for the allocation of funds.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

1. Award funding to applicants as described in the report.
2. Provide a letter of 'In Principle Support' for the matched funding requested by Denman Sandy Hollow Junior Rugby League Football Club.
3. The General Manager meet with the Early Arms Rifle and Pistol Club to facilitate a solution and report to Council.

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____

BACKGROUND

This funding program gives sporting and community groups an opportunity to apply for matched funding to improve or replace sport and recreational facilities within the Shire. Grants are available on a matched dollar for dollar basis up to value of \$50,000 per project. The total amount allocated for this round period is \$100,000.

The large capital grants program follows on from the very successful small capital grants program which was launched last year with a cap of \$2000 per project with a total pool of \$20,000. It has continued this year with an increased pool of \$25,000.

CONSULTATION

Manager Property and Building Services

Manager Corporate Services

Recreation and Property Officer

CONSULTATION WITH COUNCILLOR SPOKESPERSON

Cr Graeme McNeil, Spokesperson for Sport and Cr Michelle Green, Spokesperson for Recreation

REPORT

Sporting group	Purpose of funding	Funding requested	Total project cost
Muswellbrook Football Club	Provide removable shelter and seating for spectators and players of local junior competitions	\$2,900	\$5,800
Denman Co-operative Bowling Club – Men's	Purchase of mower for maintenance and upkeep of two grass bowling greens	\$5,000	\$10,000
Early Arms Rifle and Pistol Club	Construction of a 2wd all weather access road across our Legal Right of Carriage Way from Dolahenty's Road to the Early Rifle and Pistol Club Range	\$35,000	\$70,000
Park Tennis	Light poles for tennis court	\$30,000	\$60,000
Denman Golf Club	Purchase of new tractor with bucket and mulcher	\$22,000	\$44,000
Denman Squash Club	Install insulation in the roof space and install two solar operated fans (labour only)	\$25,000	\$50,000
Denman Sandy Hollow Jnr Rugby League Club	Construction of concrete tiered seating on the slope in front of the new amenities building at the new Denman Sporting Fields	\$50,000	\$100,000
TOTAL		\$169,900	\$339,800

The total amount requested by applicants comes to \$169,000, which is well over the allocated amount of \$100,000.

OPTIONS

A total grant spend of \$169,900 would contribute to the delivery of sporting infrastructure projects worth \$339,800. However to award all applications additional \$69,900 funding would need to be identified and allocated to this round.

An alternative is fund all applications but not the Denman Sandy Hollow - Junior Rugby League Football Club (JRLFC) and Early Arms Rifle and Pistol Club applications at this stage leaving \$15,100 in remaining funds unallocated.

The Denman Sandy Hollow JRLFC does not have all the funds required to match Council's contribution for their grant application however they are currently fundraising. In this instance a letter of in principle support would suffice to progress this project at this stage. If the Club is successful in fundraising and sourcing other grant funding then Council would need to provide the match funds of \$50,000.

The Early Arms Rifle and Pistol Club is a complicated application with development and ownership issues and requires a considered solution that is not simply addressed in the awarding of their application.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that with the exception of Denman Sandy Hollow JRLFC and Early Arms Rifle and Pistol Club award all funding to applicants. Further for Denman Sandy Hollow JRLFC's instead provide a letter of in principle support for funding and for the Early Arms Rifle and Pistol Club the General Manager meet with the club to facilitate a satisfactory outcome.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Improving the facilities and equipment of local sporting groups will encourage increased participation in sporting and recreational activities, leading to improved health and social outcomes. Financial assistance from Council ensures that clubs are able to operate with appropriate equipment and facilities despite financial difficulty.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If Council chooses to fund all of the eligible projects, an additional \$69,900 will need to be sourced.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

F16-1 Financial Assistance Policy

Applications for financial assistance not listed in the annual Management Plan are referred to the appropriate Council Committee to assess the applications and make a recommendation to Council.

For financial assistance requiring applications, a maximum allocation of \$1,000.00 per community group, organization or sporting group applies. Any request in excess of this amount will require a separate report to Council.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding recipients will be required to sign an agreement outlining their rights and responsibilities regarding the funded project, reporting of works, administration of funds and post-project acquittal.

OPERATIONAL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Plan, provide and manage a selected range of recreation facilities to an appropriate standard in a safe and efficient manner.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

All applicants were required to show proof of capacity to match the requested funding and quotes for proposed items/activities. Evidence of all regulatory and planning approvals (where relevant) is required from the applicant before funding can be released. The funded project will be the subject of a formal acquittal on completion. Each successful applicant will sign a funding contract with Council prior to release of funds.

12.6 HALF DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY 2017

Attachments:	A. Public Holiday 2017 Survey Results B. Public Holiday 2017 Race Club Letter of Support
Responsible Officer:	Fiona Plesman - Acting Director - Planning, Community & Corporate Services
Author:	Joshua Brown - Co-Ordinator Executive Services
Community Plan Issue:	<i>Promote and support economic growth and diversity within Muswellbrook Shire through policy development and action</i>
Community Plan Goal:	<i>That local government policies support business growth and diversity</i>
Community Plan Strategy:	<i>Share growth, prosperity and opportunities across the whole community</i>

PURPOSE

For Councillors to consider supporting the proposed application to NSW Treasury for a local part day public holiday on Friday, 8 December 2017.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council make application to the Minister for Industrial Relations for the approval of a half day public holiday for the Muswellbrook Cup Day from noon on Friday, 8 December 2017.

Moved: _____ **Seconded:** _____

BACKGROUND

In order that the 2017 Half Day Public Holiday can be observed, Muswellbrook Shire Council is required to make application to NSW Treasury under the *Public Holidays Act 2010* for the declaration of local public holidays and local event days.

CONSULTATION

Muswellbrook Race Club

Local businesses, schools and community members

REPORT

To be officially recognised, the Minister for Industrial Relations must declare a local public holiday or event day following an application by council.

It is proposed that a local part day public holiday be held on Friday, 8 December 2017 to mark the running of the Muswellbrook Cup. In 2016 the Muswellbrook Race Club moved the date of the running of the Muswellbrook Cup move from the traditional date of the event, which had previously coincided with the Melbourne Cup, in an effort to stimulate greater participation and interest in the event. Following the success of the 2016 Muswellbrook Cup at the new time, it is proposed to again hold the event separate from the Melbourne Cup.

An alternative to a local half day public holiday is a local event day. A local event day is again declared by the Minister, although it does not preclude banks and certain retail outlets from trading on the day. Entitlements to penalty rates will only apply in the case where an enterprise agreement or contract allowing for such entitlements has been signed.

As recommended by NSW Treasury, consultation with the relevant stakeholders has been undertaken to support the application. Council has sought feedback from the community and local businesses through an online survey, which was publicised in local media, and specific consultation with the Muswellbrook Race Club and local schools. Council has received positive feedback in support of the declaration of a public holiday as proposed. A copy of the survey results is attached as Appendix A and a letter of support from the Muswellbrook Race Club as Appendix B.

The local half day public holiday has become somewhat of a tradition on Muswellbrook Cup day as it has been declared for many years. The Muswellbrook Cup is one of the major sporting events in the region which experiences high attendance with crowd numbers in excess of 5,000 not uncommon. A portion of the support experienced at the Muswellbrook Cup is contributed to by the declaration of a local half day public holiday.

Consideration must be given to the implications a local half day public holiday can create for small to medium sized businesses within the Muswellbrook Shire. A local half day public holiday under Industrial Relations legislation would preclude banks and certain retail outlets from operating from 12:00 midday on 8 December 2017. This would include penalty entitlements for individuals who are required to work during the declared half day public holiday, depending on the employee's contract arrangements.

A local half day public holiday does create an imposition on local businesses, although the community benefit must also be measured in this decision. The local half day public holiday provides the opportunity for residents to participate in a local event which benefits the economic and social aspects of the Muswellbrook Shire. Without the declaration of the local half day public holiday, the Muswellbrook Cup attendance rates may decline significantly.

In the pursuit of maintaining a community event it is recommended that the support of an application to NSW Treasury for a local part day public holiday be approved.

OPTIONS

Council may consider not making the application and abandoning the public holiday, or supporting a local event day in the alternative.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council again seek approval from the Minister for the continuation of the Muswellbrook Cup Day on Friday, 8 December 2017 from noon.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A half day public holiday would incur approximately \$23,500 in wages to be paid in accordance with the Local Government State Award (2014). Council employees who would be required to work and maintain a minimum level of service to the community would be entitled to penalty rates.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

OPERATIONAL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

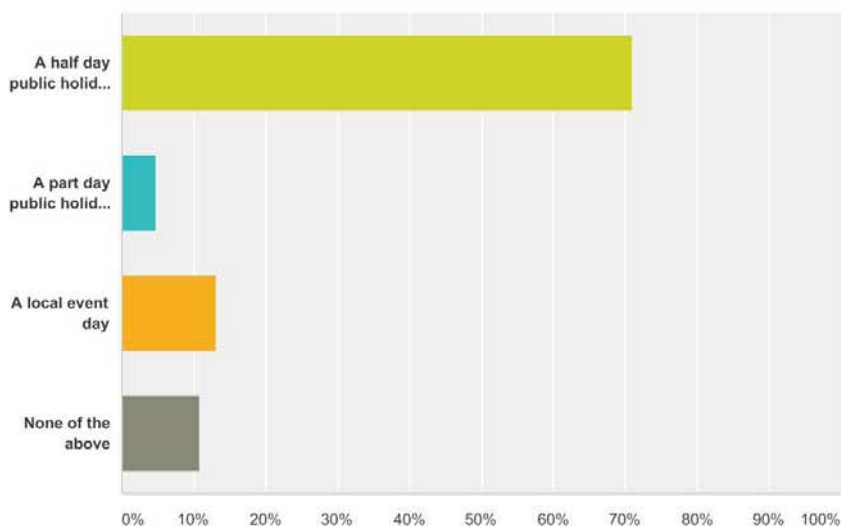
Not applicable.

Have your say on proposed half day public holiday for the Muswellbrook Cup

SurveyMonkey

Q1 For the Muswellbrook Cup Day on 08 December 2017 which of the following would you prefer be held in the Muswellbrook Shire:

Answered: 83 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
A half day public holiday (from noon) as in previous years	71.08% 59
A part day public holiday (noon to 6pm only)	4.82% 4
A local event day	13.25% 11
None of the above	10.84% 9
Total	83



To whom it may concern,

Muswellbrook Race Club is strongly in favour of a half-day public holiday proposed for Friday afternoon 8th December 2017.

The half-day holiday is seen as an integral part of the success of the Muswellbrook Cup Carnival and associated events. The half-day holiday will allow the best opportunity of attracting as many people as possible to support the Muswellbrook Cup Day and other events planned both before and after.

The continuing growth of this carnival will provide great benefit to local businesses specifically in the hospitality sector and create a flow on effect that will improve the local area economy.

Given the encouraging growth of this event in 2016, the momentum needs to continue to further enhance this great community event. A half-day holiday will go a long way to helping achieve this.

Kindest regards,



Duane Dowell

General Manager

Muswellbrook Race Club



Office: 02 6541 1699 Fax: 02 6543 4553
PO Box 361 Muswellbrook NSW 2333



Email: admin@muswellbrookraceclub.com.au
www.muswellbrookraceclub.com.au

18 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:

19.5 FUTURE FUND ACQUISITION - DUE DILIGENCE

Item 19.5 is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2)(c) of the local government act 1993, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business, and Council considers that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Moved: _____ **Seconded:** _____