

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 JULY 2022

- **Essential Energy premises:** Council resolved to not enter into direct negotiations with Essential Energy for the purchase of 148 Church Street, Glen Innes for the Glen Innes Powerhouse Museum Project; Council did not support the business case for the project. Council however authorised the General Manager to enter negotiations with Essential Energy to purchase the property as an investment property for Council, being one of the few remaining commercial properties with a street frontage on the highway and within the CBD. If purchased, Council will determine the future usage for the premises, such as decisions in respect of the street frontage and the type of business to be housed there.
- **Saleyards Future Directions:** Council authorised the General Manager to advertise for Expressions of Interest (EOI's) to either:
 1. Lease Part Lot 716 DP753282, 36 Lang Street, Glen Innes to allow for the continued operation of a Saleyards; or
 2. Purchase the Saleyards located on Part Lot 716 DP753282, 36 Lang Street, Glen Innes with terms for the continued operation of a Saleyards for a minimum of five (5) years; noting that the truck wash, pound and holding yards are to be subdivided from the remainder of the property and ownership retained by Council.

It was noted that calling for EOI's to lease the saleyards may invigorate interest and bring sales back to Glen Innes. Council in principle wishes to continue the saleyards but the facility must be viable. If insufficient or no interest is expressed, Council will look at other options. It was noted that there is a trend to move away from the use of saleyards and that Council needs to better market/promote the saleyards; larger agents have moved away from the local saleyards and have taken their customers with them. The saleyards need to be promoted to the community to generate interest and get the community to go there, such as on special sale days.

- **Road Maintenance Progress:** Natural disaster events continue to impact on the road maintenance schedule. This is continuing to put pressure on Council resources and exhausting supplies of materials from the quarry. The "Otta" seal project continues to make progress with an additional 20kms of sealing on Strathbogie Road. There are two grading teams operating making good progress on reducing the kilometres of the unsealed network requiring work. This has a spin-on effect on our local tourism by making village and rural drives more available for motoring and touring.

It was noted that the seasonal conditions have also impacted on the sealed road network as evidenced by the number of potholes undermining the sealing. Council is endeavouring to address this with grant funding available under natural disaster funding, noting that such roadworks are not typically funded in this way. Council is also conducting an annual contracted survey of the road network. This gives Council a very sound argument to show that the impact of the conditions is not normal. Flood damage is being noted and scheduled by maintenance crews as they go about maintenance works.

- **New Policy for the Verge:** The new Vehicle Crossings and Nature Strip Policy was adopted by Council and has been updated to incorporate a nature strip maintenance section. This section outlines the responsibilities of the land holder/occupant for mowing areas adjacent to their property and keeping the land clean and tidy on Council's Road Reserve. The land holder/occupant will be granted permission from Council under this policy to undertake maintenance work in the road reserve, without the need for a Section 138 Permit. The Policy will still require the landowner/occupant to seek authority from Council to commence significant work. Work that is excluded from seeking approval from Council includes: slashing (rural areas only), mowing, whipper snipping, edge trimming, high pressure cleaning of paved and concrete surfaces and weed control (when conducted per the Pesticides Act 1999 and the Pesticides Regulation 2017). Suggestions such as growing gardens on the verge require submissions to and approval by Council.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Council invites written submissions on the **Draft Glen Innes Severn Learning Centre Strategic Marketing Plan 2022-2025** which is on public exhibition from Thursday, 4 August 2022 with submissions closing at **4.30pm on Wednesday, 31 August 2022.**

The document and submission form are available on Council's website under Public Notices on the Home page and is also available for viewing at the following locations:

- Council's Town Hall Office and Council's Church Street Office; and
- the village Post Offices at Deepwater, Emmaville and Glencoe.

APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL HERITAGE ASSISTANCE FUND

A Local Heritage Assistance Fund has been established by Council with the aid of a grant from the NSW Heritage Office. Owners of heritage properties are now invited to apply for funding under the Heritage Assistance Fund.

Eligible projects are those which involve the repair, maintenance or reinstatement of missing items on heritage buildings. These include fences, verandahs, roof cladding and decorative detail, structural work through to final painting of projects. Owners of buildings in the CBD are particularly invited to apply as priority will be given to these properties. Application forms and guidelines are available from Council's Department of Development, Planning & Regulatory Services at 136 Church Street between 8.30am and 4.30pm or by phoning (02) 6730 2350, or can be downloaded from Council's website: <https://www.gisc.nsw.gov.au/heritage-assistance-fund>

INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS PROGRAM

Council would like to advise residents that the following works are scheduled for the **period ending Friday, 19 August 2022** subject to weather conditions and unforeseen delays:

- Pothole patching general maintenance and within the Glen Innes township and Pinkett Road;
- General maintenance including signage upgrades, line marking, street sweeping and roadside slashing in various locations;
- The construction team will be undertaking construction works on Emmaville Road;
- The bridge team will be working on flood recovery repairs and bridge maintenance;
- The Heavy Patching crew will be undertaking flood recovery works on Pinkett Road;
- Maintenance grading will commence around Stonehenge and Rangers Valley.

The condition of the road network in the Glen Innes Severn Local Government Area (LGA) has been severely impacted by recurring rain events. Significant potholes, washouts and groundwater springs are appearing throughout our network, as road surfaces struggle to cope. Significant resources are being directed to repair this widespread damage.

Council apologises for any traffic delays associated with these works and requests that motorists follow all traffic control signage and directions at the work sites.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Grazing Licence

Council is calling for Expression of Interest for a Grazing Licence at West Rusden Street, Glen Innes. The closing date for submissions is **4.00pm on Friday, 19 August 2022.**

The area is approximately 2 ha and will be set at a three-year term. More information can be viewed and application forms downloaded from Council's website or collected from Council's Town Hall and Church Street Offices.

Visitor Information Centre Bus Lounge

Council is calling for Expressions of Interest for the opportunity of leasing part of the Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre. **Submissions close at 4.00pm on Friday, 26 August 2022.**

The area in question is approximately 27m² and was formerly used as a bus lounge. More information can be viewed and application forms downloaded from Council's website or collected from Council's Town Hall and Church Street Offices.

Dundee Tennis Courts

Council is calling for Expressions of Interest for the opportunity of licensing land in Dundee at the informally named Dundee Tennis Courts. **Submissions close at 4.00pm on Friday, 26 August 2022.**

The area in question is approximately 1.34 ha which includes an area of 0.44 ha that is enclosed for the purposes of a tennis court. More information can be viewed and application forms downloaded from Council's website or collected from Council's Town Hall and Church Street Offices.

For further information on the above Expressions of Interest, please contact Adam Reid, Property Administration Officer, on (02) 6730 2334.