

MINUTES



URALLA TOWNSHIP AND ENVIRONS COMMITTEE (UTEAC)

Date: Monday 3rd June 2024 – Quarterly Meeting

Time: 06:00 PM

Meeting called to order by: Andrew Parker (06:00pm)

IN ATTENDANCE: Andrew Parker (Chair) AP, Rob Valler (Secretary- via TEAMS) RV, Bob Anderson BA, Rob Bowie RB, Gai Buchanan GB, Cr Leanne Doran LD, Marlene Jacobs MJ, Tony Lashlie TL, Kent Mayo KM, Annie Mayo AM, Jim Simpson (via TEAMS) JS, Mick Raby (Director Infrastructure and Development USC) MR.

APOLOGIES: Beth McGrath BM, Cr Tara Toomey TT.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS QUARTERLY MEETING (4th MARCH 2024)

Moved: KM

Seconded: BA

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Update requested regarding maintenance of rail lands.

Fencing has now been completed - confirmed by MR. RB raised concerns about the state of the damage to the grounds around where the new fence is installed. Further concerns were raised re the fence not being animal proof – this was considered to be outside the remit of Transport for NSW. There was no update re railyard depot. MR met with UGL re occupation/carpark of railway station – MR stated that he had proposed to UGL that if they had the funds for works that USC could provide the necessary resources to undertake projects. RV raised concerns around this given USC inability to find enough resources (people/time/equipment) to undertake tasks that are within USC remit.

Point of note – RV joined meeting at 06:08pm due to an issue with the online link. **Note to all UTEAC members: The online link will now be via TEAMS.**

2. Update on Mt Mutton mural resolution.

RV has reviewed previous USC resolutions and has discovered that a resolution was made 27 Sep 22 (Resolution no 07.09/22 – point 10) that 'Council paint out the Mural on the water tank with dark green'. Comment from resolution "*Mural done c2010 under Youth Week grant (UI10/948). Lower priority than other infrastructure works needed in Water Supply. A budget bid will be prepared for the 2024/2025 Operations Plan and Budget for Council's consideration.*" MR will take this matter for action. No further action required from UTEC.

3. Update requested on The Glen, Pioneer Park and Courthouse projects.

MR gave report on each with the ultimate point being that all works will be completed by Fri 21 Jun 24 for the opening.

Several concerns regarding the projects were raised:

- a) concerns of weeds and maintenance in Rotary Park raised by GB.
- b) RB raised concerns that the BBQ is still not functioning (this matter has been raised with USC on numerous occasions over past 18 months)
- c) Through discussions it was learnt that a sculpture has been donated to USC and that MR unilaterally accepted the sculpture without any Councillor or Community consultation/approval. It was noted that the sculpture is not part of the Constellations of the South project. A slab has been laid at ratepayer expense to accommodate the sculpture. Concerns were raised by a number of UTEC members that this should not occur, and that USC should not make such decisions without proper process. UTEC has recommended that this be reviewed as a matter of urgency and policy devised accordingly.

4. Update requested on Volunteer Policy.

MR reported that USC are looking at existing situations across other organisations where volunteers are engaged, to develop a comprehensive Volunteer Policy. No further work has yet been undertaken.

Update requested on Parks and Gardens maintenance and relevant budget considerations.

MR reported that 1 additional FTE staff member has been proposed for the Grounds Crew in the forthcoming budget - taking the number of Grounds Crew to 5 FTE. MR stated that to date, 1 member of the Grounds Crew has been consistently used to backfill for the Construction Crew when members from there have been on leave/absent – this will now cease. MR stated that one member of the Grounds Crew would be dedicated to the Main Street of Uralla.

GB raised concerns about Councillor's decision to not resolve to engage the Work for the Community program through NSW Corrections as there will always be more work to be undertaken than there are available human resources in the USC/Uralla Community to achieve. MR stated that perhaps Councillors did not have access to all the required information when making the decision. LD was asked for her input as a Councillor but declined to make any comment.

5. Update requested on speed limits on southern approach to Uralla.

This matter has been referred to the Local Traffic Committee. No further update available.

6. Update requested re casual vacancy on UTEC.

MR reported that the GM was looking at whether this needed to go before Councillors to appoint a casual vacancy. No decision was made, and no further action noted.

GENERAL BUSINESS

7. Special Report from Mick Raby

Note – Andrew Parker left the meeting at this stage to avoid any conflict of interest.

MR advised UTEC that there is a funding grant for which a host of projects were originally identified but which USC now wants to review to remove a number of projects to allow for Stage 2 of the Pioneer Park development to be funded under this grant. MR will send a briefing note to UTEC Secretary to distribute to UTEC members for comment. UTEC Secretary will then put together a consolidated response for USC to consider.

8. Correspondence from USC

Correspondence was received from Wendy Westbrook at USC re the Local Government Elections for 2024. RV read out the dates of information sessions contained within

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) That Council accept the Minutes from the UTEC Quarterly Meeting of 04 Mar 2024 and UTEC General Meetings of 08 Apr and 06 May 2024.

Moved: KM

Seconded: BA

CARRIED

Next General Meeting: Monday 1st July 2024 - 4pm, Uralla Shire Council Chamber

Next Quarterly Meeting: Monday 2nd September 2024 - 6pm, Uralla Shire Council Chamber

Meeting Closed: 07:19pm