

# MINUTES OF MEETING



## WATER, WASTE AND SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Venue **Online Skype Conference Call**

Date **Thursday, 9 April 2020**

Time **11.30am**



# BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL

WATER, WASTE AND SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 9 APRIL 2020

## **Minutes of the Water, Waste and Sewer Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 9 April 2020**

**File No:** I2020/533

**PRESENT:** Cr Richardson, Cr C Coorey, Cr M Lyon and Cr S Ndiaye

Staff: Phillip Holloway (Director Infrastructure Services)  
Cameron Clark (Manager Utilities)  
Dean Baulch (Principal Engineer system Planning)  
Bryan Green (Water and Sewer system Environment Officer)  
Jason Stanley (System Planning Officer)  
Julian Vivoli (Consultant IS)  
Michael Matthews (Manager Open Spaces and Resource Recovery)  
Dominika Tomanek (Minute Taker)

Community: Duncan Dey (online) and Ben Fawcett (online)

*Cr Ndiaye (Chair) opened the meeting at 11:36 am and acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Bundjalung Country.*

### **APOLOGIES:**

Col Draper  
Mary Gardner  
David Fligelman,  
Madeleine Green

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **Committee Recommendation:**

**That the minutes of the Water, Waste and Sewer Advisory Committee Meeting held on 30 January 2020 be confirmed.**

(Fawcett/Coorey)

*The recommendation was put to the vote and declared carried.*

*Note: The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2020 were noted, and the Committee Recommendations adopted by Council, at the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 February 2020.*

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

There was no business arising from previous minutes.

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## STAFF REPORTS - INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

**Report No. 4.1**            **Minutes of previous Water, Waste and Sewer Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**File No:**                I2020/498

**Note:**

Duncan congratulated staff on enabling this Committee meeting to go ahead, on keeping our business moving as much as is being achieved, and on continuing to operate under difficult COVID-19 conditions.

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### PROCEDURAL MOTION

**Change the order of business:**

That Committee change the order of business to deal with Reports 4.5 first on the Agenda.

**Report No. 4.5**            **Inflow and Infiltration - quarterly update**  
**File No:**                I2020/504

**Committee Recommendation:**

That Council note the report.

(Dey/Ndiaye)

*The recommendation was put to the vote and declared carried.*

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**Report No. 4.2**            **Nutrient Loading in the Belongil**  
**File No:**                I2020/297

**Committee Recommendation:**

1. That Council note that:
  - a) for the twelve-month period 27 April 2017 to 26 April 2018 Total Nitrogen (TN; monitored as required in Condition 11 of Council's approval under its Resolution 02-1329 of December 2002) released to Belongil Creek was 1564 kg and that this exceeds (a) the allowable discharge of 1500kg TN, and (b) the 80% threshold under which an investigation is triggered.
  - b) the Condition requires this monitoring be done on a rolling two-month window, based on weekly sampling.
  - c) the Condition requires Council to investigate feasible management strategies to reduce loads below 80%.
  - d) the Condition further requires Council to discuss appropriate courses of action to prevent further exceedances.

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2. That Council sample nutrient loads weekly or better, as required by Consent Condition 11.
3. That Council investigate all feasible management strategies to reduce loads below 80%, including strategies already under way such as:
  - a) Biostem pellets for removing sludge and therefore possibly nutrients, and
  - b) vetiver grass [increase sampling downstream of the trial planting to assess the grass's ability to reduce nutrients].
4. That Council continue testing its flow meter newly installed at EPA location #4 to assess accuracy and reliability of flow results and, once performance is confirmed or by the end of June 2020 (whichever is sooner) these results be reported to the next meeting (scheduled for 30 July) of the WWS Advisory Committee and published on Council's Water & Sewer information website.
5. That Council recognise:
  - a) that it is impossible to mitigate against increased nutrient loads during high rainfall events and
  - b) that rainfall periods longer than a month may cause breaches of Consent Conditions 11.

(Dey/Coorey)

*The recommendation was put to the vote and declared carried.*

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**Report No. 4.3**                      **Effects of water mining in Byron and surrounding shires on groundwater resources**  
**File No:**                              I2020/298

**Committee Recommendation:**

That Council:

1. note that the October 2019 *Independent review of the impacts of the bottled water industry on groundwater resources in the Northern Rivers region of NSW* (Final Report - NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer - 31 October 2019; E2019/91097) fails to consider cumulative impacts of this expanding industry on groundwater and does not adequately consider non-water impacts such as traffic in local communities and proliferation of plastic bottles.
2. receive confirmation from staff to the committee that the current status of water mining for bottled water is that it is prohibited in the Byron shire.

(Dey/Coorey)

*The recommendation was put to the vote and declared carried.*

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**Report No. 4.4**                      **Condition 9. Additional Load at Byron STP**  
**File No:**                              I2020/497

**Committee Recommendation:**

That Council receive reports twice yearly on the performance of BBSTP against its Consent Condition 9 via reports to its Water, Waste and Sewer Advisory Committee.

(Dey/Fawcett)

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*The recommendation was put to the vote and declared carried.*

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**Report No. 4.6**                    **Rous County Council - Service Level Agreements 1st July - 31st  
December 2019**  
**File No:**                        I2020/520

**Committee Recommendation:**

That the Council note the report..

(Lyon/Fawcett)

*The recommendation was put to the vote and declared carried.*

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*There being no further business the meeting concluded at 1:06 pm.*