



# **Ordinary Meeting of Council**

## **SUPPLEMENTARY**

### **AGENDA**

**23 May 2018**

**Commencing at 5.30pm**

**Council Chambers  
10 Majara Street  
Bungendore**



On-site Inspections - Nil

**S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS**

- S.1 Riverside Oval Queanbeyan and Mick Sherd Oval Bungendore - surface condition.....3

**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS –**

*(Copies available from CEO/General Manager's Office on request)*

**Open Attachments**

*Nil*

**Closed Attachments**

*Nil*



**S.1 Riverside Oval Queanbeyan and Mick Sherd Oval Bungendore - surface condition (Ref: C1865725; Author: Tegart/Geyer)**

**S.1 Riverside Oval Queanbeyan and Mick Sherd Oval Bungendore - surface condition (Ref: C1865725); Author: Tegart/Geyer**

**Report**

Over recent weeks, there has been some media and community commentary regarding the conditions of Riverside Oval, Queanbeyan and Mick Sherd Oval, Bungendore. This report is provided to give councillors some background into both fields and actions proposed to address community concerns. It has been a particularly warm and dry season that has impacted the growth and recovery of the playing surfaces.

**Riverside Oval**

Riverside Oval, located in Carinya Street Queanbeyan, is home to both Monaro Panthers FC and Queanbeyan City FC. The field hosts both Premier League and Capital League Football, with eight senior teams using Riverside as their home ground. Junior Premier League play at Duncan Fields Googong. Clubs have worked with Capital Football to keep the average number of games on Riverside down to four per weekend. To assist in preserving the playing surface, both clubs agree to train away from Riverside, however, the field does experience unauthorised use by community members.

Riverside Oval received an autumn fertiliser and increased irrigation during this dry period to stimulate grass growth. Staff have worked with Monaro Panthers FC to apply for a grant under the Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) to renovate Riverside Oval in spring and are planning activities to take place as soon as the football season ends to ensure maximum growth before the 2019 season starts. The risk will be any delay in release of grant funding, due to government processing of applications and funding agreements. Staff are exploring methods to get the work completed without missing the growing season, with care not to breach grant conditions and voiding the funding.

With the successful Stronger Country Communities Fund grant to construct new club amenities at High Street fields, Queanbeyan City FC aim to relocate their Capital League games to this site in 2019, which will ease pressure on the Riverside Oval playing surface.

**Mick Sherd Oval, Bungendore Park**

Mick Sherd Oval is the only significant sports facility in Bungendore. The field is home to all major codes based in the town for both competition and training (see Table 1, Winter Use). Rugby League have 3 senior and 10 junior teams, Rugby Union have 1 team and soccer 3 teams. In summer the major user is OZtag.

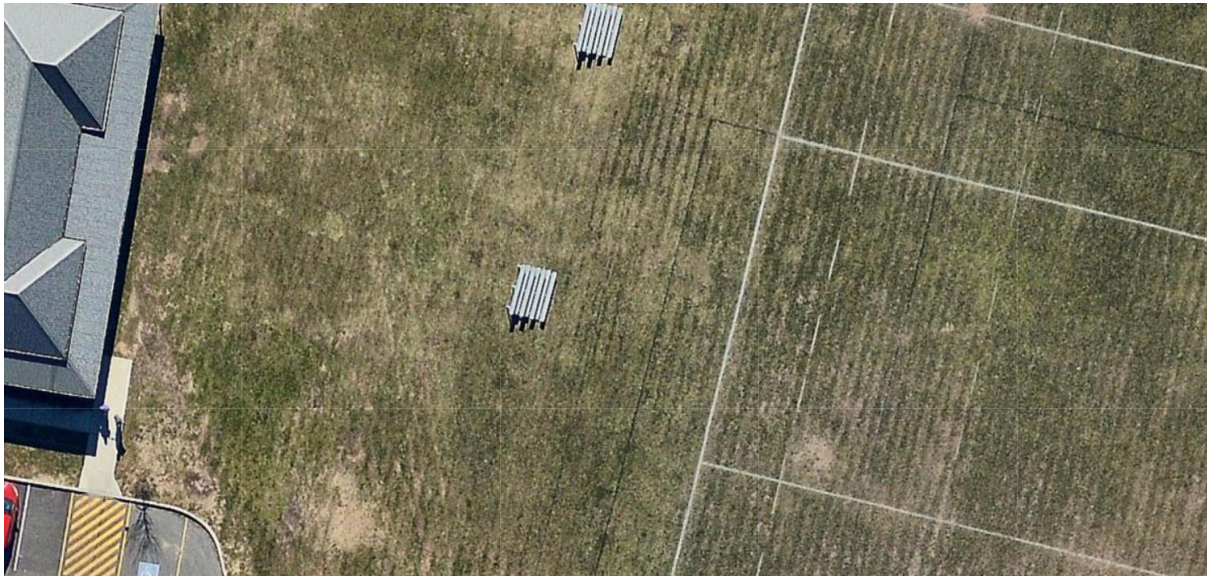
Monday	Soccer Training		
Tuesday	Soccer Training	Union Training	League Training
Wednesday	Nil		
Thursday	Soccer Training	Union Training	League Training
Friday	Periodic League and Union games		
Saturday	Soccer comp in mornings	Senior League Comp afternoon	Union Comp afternoon
Sunday	Junior League comp.		

**S.1 Riverside Oval Queanbeyan and Mick Sherd Oval Bungendore - surface condition (Ref: C1865725; Author: Tegart/Geyer) (Continued)**

To reduce the load, one Bungendore team is already training in Queanbeyan. Other teams are encouraged to train off the main field, however, if the dry weather continues and predicted severe frosts occur, Council may need to consider reducing the use of Mick Sherd Oval, with potential of games being transferred to Queanbeyan.

Condition

Mick Sherd Oval is unique in that it is the only field Council owns that has subsoil trickle irrigation and uses recycled water. The water treatment prohibits the use of above ground spray irrigation without isolating the field from public access. The system consists of many thin poly tubes with drippers evenly spaced across the field, just below grass root level. On close observation, the field will look corrugated with green and brown strips. Green is the irrigation lines, brown is the gap between lines.



This means all top dressing and fertilising must rely on rain to water it into the soil, and traditional methods of de-compaction cannot be applied without cutting the irrigation lines. At the request of users, Mick Sherd Oval was top dressed in spring along with other Queanbeyan ovals, however the long dry season has demonstrated the irrigation system's short comings.

Options

There have been calls for Council to upgrade the irrigation to modern turf grass spray irrigation, however this will mean converting to potable water use, in a town where potable water is in high demand and a limited resource, or an upgrade of the sewage treatment process to a higher quality recycled water. Staff are currently installing standpipes to allow use of potable water through travelling irrigators in the short term.

Consideration could be given to developing a Bungendore Stormwater Plan as proposed previously, which could include stormwater harvesting and retention for field irrigation at both Mick Sherd Oval and the proposed future Sporting Hub off Bungendore Road.

Should the interim solution of utilising potable water for surface irrigation be insufficient to sustain growth to rehabilitate the surface, discussions should continue with clubs to train offsite, or utilise other grounds in Queanbeyan, through the Sports Council.

**S.1 Riverside Oval Queanbeyan and Mick Sherd Oval Bungendore - surface condition (Ref: C1865725; Author: Tegart/Geyer) (Continued)**

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**CONCLUSION**

The current conditions of both Mick Sherd and Riverside Ovals is predominantly due to usage and demand, exacerbated by weather conditions, and clearly demonstrates the need for the proposed sporting hubs (at South Jerra and Bungendore) as identified in the Sports Facilities Strategic Plan.

The Riverside Oval surface should be remedied through grant funded works at the end of the current season, while other interventions (during the season) are suggested for Mick Sherd. Council may consider forward funding renovation and surface irrigation works for that oval at season end, but needs to consider the appropriate use of recycled, potable or harvested storm water to support the irrigation.

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**Recommendation**

**That the report be received for information.**

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**Attachments**

Nil