



**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM
HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2021**

1. Opening

The Public Forum commenced at 5.34pm.

2. Presentations relating to listed Items on the Council Agenda

The following written submissions were received:

No	Name	Agenda item	Item description	For/Against
1	Angie Angel	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
2	Mark Lintermans	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
3	Tara Taubenschlag	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
4	Anne Goonan	9.3	Proposed Planning Proposal - Abbeyfield Seniors Housing Project	For
5	Neil Phillips	9.22	Request for Donation for Rates Relief	For
6	Save Bungendore Park Inc	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	For
7	Save Bungendore Park Inc	16.2	Bungendore Property	Against
8	Annabel Beith	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
9	Catherine Osborne	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against

10	Leigh Mawby	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
11	Carolyn Cole	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
12	Chelsea Newman	9.4	Dwelling Entitlement Request - Lot 186 DP 754873 and Lot 1 DP1233647, Creekborough Road, Bywong	Against
13	Kate Soulsby	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
14	Barbara Rayner	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
15	Leigh Rayner	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
16	Emma Brooks Maher	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
17	Maureen Elgood	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
18	Kerry Douch	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
19	Dorothy Liddon	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against

The following presenters were heard via Zoom:

No.	Name	Item no	Item description	For/Against
1	Emma Brooks Maher	9.1	Proposed Submission on State Significant Development Application for New High School at Bungendore	Against
2	Kate Munari	9.4	Dwelling Entitlement Request - Lot 186 DP 754873 and Lot 1 DP1233647, Creekborough Road, Bywong	Against

3. Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

4. 'Questions on Notice' from the Public

Responses to the following 'Questions on Notice' received up to 20 October 2021 were provided and tabled at the meeting (see attached for responses):

No.	Received from:	In relation to:
1	Katrina Willis	Lead contamination in Bungendore
2-7	Katrina Willis	Overdue Rates and Charges
8-10	Katrina Willis	Stormwater Management
11-12	Katrina Willis	Climate Adaption
13	Katrina Willis	Securing Braidwood's Water Supply

5. Presentations by Invitation from the CEO/General Manager

There were no presentations.

6. Closure

As there were no further matters, the Public Forum closed at 5.48pm.



ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM HELD ON 27 October 2021

'Questions on Notice' from the Public

Responses to the following 'Questions on Notice' received up to *Wednesday 20 October 2021* were provided and tabled at the meeting.

Questions submitted by: Katrina Willis

Lead contamination in Bungendore

- 1. Has the presence of lead in soil along the railway line in Bungendore caused a suspension in transfer of council property to the NSW Government for construction of the Bungendore High School?**

Response: Office of the Chief Executive

No

Overdue rates and charges

- 2. How does QPRC determine the rate for overdue rates and charges?**

Response: Organisation Capability

The rate is determined on an annual basis by the Minister for Local Government for all NSW councils. <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/council-circulars/21-04-information-about-rating-2021-22/>

- 3. Does council charge less than or equal to the maximum rate determined?**

Response: Organisation Capability

The Council interest on overdue rates and annual charges is equal to the Ministerial determination of 6% per annum.

- 4. How many ratepayers had outstanding rates and charges owing in 2020-21?**

Response: Organisation Capability

3,200 properties had outstanding rates as at 30 June 2021

- 5. What was the total amount of the outstanding rates and charges?**

Response: Organisation Capability

As at 30 June the total amount of rates and annual charges outstanding was \$7.2 million

6. How much interest was obtained for the overdue sums?

Response: Organisation Capability

For the 2020/21 financial year the total interest on overdue rates was \$300,000. Note that interest was not charged for 6 months of the year during the COVID impact on the community.

7. What measures does council have in place to address arrears in rates and charges?

Response: Organisation Capability

Council's debt collection process has been interrupted several times over the past two years. Legal action for debt collection recommenced in April 2021 after a long initial COVID interruption, and then new COVID restrictions impacted Council's ability to serve notices again from August 2021.

Reminder notices, payment arrangements, letters, emails and phone calls to outstanding ratepayers are all continuing – however consistent legal follow-up has not been possible. Council has adopted additional hardship provisions to assist ratepayers with interest free repayments – where they have been financially impacted by droughts, fires, flood or COVID.

Additionally, Council is currently planning to conduct a sale of land for unpaid rates, where rates have been unpaid on any property for in excess of five years – as soon as COVID restrictions ease and legal actions can practically commence.

Stormwater management

8. How much revenue has been collected through application of the Queanbeyan stormwater levy?

Response: Organisation Capability

\$374,000 was collected for the Queanbeyan Stormwater levy in the 2020/21 financial year.

9. How have the funds been used to manage stormwater?

Response: Community Connections

Stormwater levy funds were recently used to fund significant stormwater works at Hoover Road, Queanbeyan. These works provide an alternative route for underground urban stormwater from part of Hoover Road and Alumba Streets to the natural water course located to the north-west. The works were required in response to the failure of an older pipeline in the area beneath the former Hoover Road landfill.

10. Is there a program to install gross pollutant traps on all the stormwater drains that direct flows into Queanbeyan River?

Response: Community Connections

Gross pollutant traps already exist at most major urban stormwater discharge points along the Queanbeyan River. They are also typically specified for any new developments.

Climate Adaptation

11. Wollongong City Council is planning for average temperature rises of 3-4 degrees. What is QPRC planning for?

Response: Natural and Built Character

As identified in the QPRC Climate Change Action Plan, Queanbeyan-Palerang is projected to experience (under a high emissions scenario) a 0.5-1.3°C increase in maximum temperatures in the near future (2030) and a 1.5-3°C increase in maximum temperatures in the far future (2070) compared to a 1990-2009 baseline.

Projections for the Queanbeyan-Palerang region are obtained from Adapt NSW (<https://climatechange.environment.nsw.gov.au/>)

12. How is the council planning for extreme heat days?

Response: Natural and Built Character

QPRC is currently developing an Urban Forest Cooling Strategy to mitigate and adapt to projected increases in extreme heat days across the LGA. The Urban Forest Cooling Strategy specifically aims to ensure a cooler and healthier environment across our four major urban centres (Googong, Queanbeyan, Braidwood and Bungendore) by educating the community, increasing green infrastructure, expanding data collection and monitoring and reviewing planning and development controls.

The Strategy is currently within the draft phase with public consultation concluding in early September. It is anticipated that the final draft will be presented to Council for adoption early next year.

Securing Braidwood's water supply

13. What measures has the council taken to secure Braidwood's water supply following the most recent drought and need to cart potable water to the town in late 2019- early 2020?

Response: Community Connections

The Palerang Communities Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan considered secure yield analyses for surface water supplies associated with the Captains Flat and Braidwood schemes.

Immediately following the impacts of the 2019/2020 drought, the study for Braidwood was reviewed. The review was undertaken by a specialist external consultant, the results of which were incorporated into a scheme-specific review of the Braidwood system by NSW Public Works.

In general terms the review confirmed that additional storage infrastructure for Braidwood was not required. Rather, it recommended a more defined water restriction activation policy along with a requirement to focus on reigning in issues with non-revenue water. The report is currently being reviewed by QPRC Executive and is expected to be presented to Council in the near future.