



## **SNOWY VALLEYS COUNCIL MEETING**

### **LATE REPORTS**

**20 FEBRUARY 2020**

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 2.00PM  
IN THE 76 CAPPER STREET TUMUT

## **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests at meetings (extract from the Code of Conduct – Section 4)**

**4.28** Councillor or a council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council or committee at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

**4.29** The councillor or council committee member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the council or committee:

- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or
- (b) at any time during which the council or committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

**4.30** In the case of a meeting of a board of a joint organisation, a voting representative is taken to be present at the meeting for the purposes of clauses 4.28 and 4.29 where they participate in the meeting by telephone or other electronic means.

**4.31** Disclosure made at a meeting of a council or council committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

## **Disclosure of Political Donations and Gifts**

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* places obligations on Councillors, staff, applicants and any person who makes a public submission, to disclose information relating to political donations and gifts during the environmental plan making or development assessment process.

The fact that political donations or gifts have been made by applicants / proponents of a planning application should not affect whether an application is approved or refused. Political donations or gifts should not be relevant in making a determination. The matter should be determined on its merits. Nor do they provide grounds for challenging the determination of any applications.

For further information, visit [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations)

Furthermore, for each planning decision made at a Council or Committee Meeting, the names of Councillors who supported the decision and those that oppose the decision must be recorded. (*Sec. 375A of the Local Government Act 1993*)

## **Use of mobile phones and the unauthorised recording of meetings (extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 15)**

**15.21** Councillors, council staff and members of the public must ensure that mobile phones

are turned to silent during meetings of the council and committees of the council.

**15.22** A person must not live stream or use an audio recorder, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the proceedings of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council without the prior authorisation of the council or the committee.

**15.23** Any person who contravenes or attempts to contravene clause 15.22, may be expelled from the meeting as provided for under section 10(2) of the Act.

**15.24** If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using only such force as is necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary, restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

### **Livestreaming of Meetings**

#### **(extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 5)**

This meeting is live streamed on Council's website to allow the community to follow Council debates and decisions without the need to attend meetings in person. Members of the public attending or speaking at a meeting agree to have their image, voice and personal information (including name and address) recorded and publicly broadcast. Snowy Valleys Council does not accept liability for any defamatory remarks or inappropriate comments that are made during the course of a meeting. Any part of the meeting that is held in closed session will not be streamed.

**5.19** All meetings of the council and committees of the council are to be webcast on the council's website.

### **Photography**

Flash photography is not permitted at a meeting of the Council or a Committee of the council without the consent of the Chief Executive Officer.

### **Public Forum**

#### **(extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 4)**

**4.1** The Council may hold a public forum prior to each Ordinary Council meeting for the purpose of hearing oral submissions on items of business to be considered at the meeting.

**4.2** Public forums are to be chaired by the mayor or their nominee.

Those attending must comply with the terms and conditions of the Code of Meeting Practice which can be viewed on Council's website;

<http://www.snowyvalleys.nsw.gov.au/Council/Governance/Policies>



**Thursday 20 February 2020**  
**Snowy Valleys Council Chambers**  
**76 Capper Street, Tumut**  
**2.00pm**

## **LATE REPORTS**

### **10. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

10.4 TWICKENHAM RUGBY LEAGUE COMPLEX - PROVISION OF RAW WATER ..... 2

### **1. CONFIDENTIAL**

**10. MANAGEMENT REPORTS****10.4 TWICKENHAM RUGBY LEAGUE COMPLEX - PROVISION OF RAW WATER**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Council has received a request from the Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club Inc. for the provision of water for irrigation of the Twickenham Rugby League Complex.

This report seeks the approval of Council to assist the club with the provision of a raw water pipeline along with the associated infrastructure and annual allowance for the provision of raw water for the irrigation of the Twickenham Rugby League Complex.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **Receive this report on the supply of raw water for the irrigation of the Twickenham Rugby League Complex**
2. **Approve the installation of a new raw water pipeline, suitable access point and connections required to supply raw water to the Twickenham Rugby League Complex, noting that this will be subject to the land managers approving the installation of the infrastructure**
3. **Endorse funding the installation of a new raw water pipeline and associated infrastructure as referred to in item 2 above from the water fund**
4. **Approve an internal budget allocation of up to \$10,000 per annum for up to 5 years for the supply of raw water to the Twickenham Rugby League Complex, noting that this equates to approximately 10 Megalitres of raw water per year plus the service charge based on Councils current fees and charges**
5. **Endorse funding the allocation of \$10,000 for the supply of raw water as described in item 4 above as a donation, noting that this will result in lost income for Council**
6. **Note that the provision of raw water will be subject to water restrictions and compliance with Councils raw water user agreement**
7. **Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the above as necessary, this includes ceasing the supply of raw water for the irrigation of Twickenham Rugby League Complex if deemed necessary**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club provides a valuable sporting facility for the region known as the Twickenham Rugby League Complex.

The Complex is maintained and operated by the club with the assistance and dedication of its volunteers at no direct cost to Council.

The Twickenham Rugby League Complex is part of the Crown Land managed by the Tumut Racecourse Land Managers for Lot 1// DP668537.

The current provision of water to the Crown Land which hosts the Tumut Racecourse, Twickenham Complex, Tumut Showgrounds and Tumut Minor League is provided independently through a water extraction license.

The Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club initially wrote to Council on the 18 March 2019, advising that the allocation of water available through this water extraction licence is not sufficient, and sought support from Council for the provision of additional raw water for irrigation.

A copy of the letter is provided as a confidential attachment to this report.

Council Officers responded to this request agreeing to provide raw water for irrigation of the Twickenham Complex, noting that the following conditions along with the relevant fees and charges would apply:

- *\$10,000 for a pipeline, water meter and construction works; this excludes an in-line meter , which would need to be maintained by the relevant users accessing the water, and any internal pipework*
- *Yearly access charge, which is dependent upon the water meter size; for 2018/19 this fee is \$873.00 for a 50mm water meter. This fee is reviewed each financial year in the fees and charges schedule*
- *Usage charge of \$0.86 per kilolitre of raw water supplied: this fee is reviewed each financial year in the fees and charges schedule*

#### **REPORT:**

In response to the above, the Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club Inc. have written to the Mayor, letter dated 4 February 2020, seeking assistance with funding the supply of raw water for the irrigation of the Twickenham Complex.

The letter states that the Council fees and charges for the supply of raw water for irrigation are *"unsustainable and way out of reach of our Club, especially under prevailing economic circumstances."*

In summary the letter refers to following reasons for seeking relief from Council for the costs associated with supplying raw water to the Complex:

- *"As stated in earlier correspondence the Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club has some one thousand (1000) athletes using the Complex, which must be an asset to the Shire, from the middle of January through to October. The day to day maintenance and curating is performed by volunteers, with the relevant costs, water, fuel, electricity and miscellaneous funding reliant on donations, sponsorship, raffles and gate money.*
- *An example of the Club's position at the present time. Water has cost the Blues to date, \$5000.00 plus, that's this year alone. We realise we are in the middle of a drought, however, our water costs to maintain three (3) international size fields and two (2) intermediate size fields over the past three (3) season (no drought) was in excess of \$20,000.00.*
- *On top of the water charges the Club is faced with, regularly redressing access roads, maintaining dressing rooms and the kiosk, electricity (lighting for playing fields averages four nights a week), Trust license fees and the list goes on.*
- *The Tumut Blues celebrate their one hundredth (100th) birthday next year and to my knowledge have never been dependent on Council funding and have provided a sport for the youth of the town and district during that time. The Clubs standing throughout the region is something to be envied and the number of visitors (tourists) the Blues have attracted to Tumut over the years and the input those visitors have had on the town's economy would be incalculable.*

- *In closing we ask you and your Councillors to give the Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club the consideration it deserves by finding an avenue which will supply irrigation to the Complex similar to that of the remainder of playing fields within the Councils derestriction, a sustainable water plan."*

A copy of the full letter from the Club is provided as a confidential attachment to this report.

Noting the above and following; it is recommended that Council support the Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club Inc with the provision of raw water for the irrigation of the Twickenham Complex:

- the Twickenham Complex, which is independently maintained and operated by the Tumut Blues Rugby League Football Club Inc, provides an important sporting facility that services the region at no direct cost to Council
- it is estimated the cost to maintain a sporting complex of similar standards to the Twickenham Complex would be in the order of \$50,000 per year
- the availability of sporting fields across the Local Government Area is limited with fields being in high demand by user groups

In addition to providing the pipeline and associated infrastructure required to irrigate the Complex, it is also recommended that up to \$10,000 per annum be allocated in the budget for the supply of up to 10 Megalitres of raw water along with the annual service charge for 5 years.

It is intended that this internal budget allocation will be a donation, noting that it will result in lost income for Council. This is required to ensure that the costs associated with providing the water is recovered through the water fund.

It is intended that need for the ongoing supply of raw water would be reconsidered in 5 years.

#### **LINKS TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

##### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework: CSP Outcome 2028**

Theme 1: Towns and Villages

##### **Delivery Outcomes**

1.7 Manage Council's resources in a manner which is equitable and ensures organisational sustainability

#### **SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>
Social	The users of the facility numbers over 1,000 and the provision of sporting facilities allows for social interaction and engagement along with wellbeing of the community.	Nil
Environmental	The provision of raw water will help to ensure that the grounds will be maintained in good condition that encourages usage.  It is intended that water conservation measures will apply to the irrigation of the Complex.	Overall increase in water consumption

	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>
Economic	The number of users attracts business and inputs into the economy of the area through the engagement in sporting activities.	Council does not own the land and the extension of the asset will add depreciation to the water assets.  Additional long term costs will be incurred by Council for the maintenance and replacement of the constructed water main.
Governance	Should raw water be provided to the ground, a water service agreement will be required which includes requirements around signage and communication.  Partnering with field users, enhances Council's relationship with the community and promotes pride and ownership of the open space	The precedent being set for the provision of water to non Council fields and land at any reduction in cost could expose Council to significant costs in the future.  Water restrictions would still be relevant to the provision of water and there is a risk associated with irrigating from town water systems.

### Financial and Resources Implications

The table below shows both the upfront capital costs and ongoing costs associated with providing raw water for the irrigation of the Twickenham Complex.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
Upfront capital cost to supply and install the infrastructure required to supply raw water to the Twickenham Complex	\$15,000	Water Fund
Ongoing budget allocation for the provision of approximately 10ML of water per year and annual service fee for 5 years	\$10,000 per year for five years	Donation, noting will result in lost revenue for Council

### Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Council's current water licence for the supply of Town Water for Tumut has sufficient capacity for the provision of water to the Twickenham Oval Complex for irrigation.

### RISK MANAGEMENT – BUSINESS RISK/WHIS/PUBLIC:

There are a number of risks identified to use Council's current water licence allocation to supply water for irrigation around the compliance with water restrictions and monitoring and ensuring compliance with usage.

### OPTIONS:

Council may determine not to provide funding for the provision of water for the complex



**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

Not required.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Both Council Staff and Councillors have been approached by representatives of the Tumut Blues Football Club for the provision of water for irrigation purposes.

**Attachments**

- 1 20190318 - Request to Connect to Town Raw Water Supply (under separate cover)  
- Confidential
- 2 20200204 - Request for Financial Assistance - Connection to Town Raw Water  
Supply (under separate cover) - Confidential