



Wyong Shire Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

ENCLOSURES

Wednesday, 8 February, 2012



WYONG SHIRE COUNCIL
ENCLOSURES TO THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
WYONG CIVIC CENTRE, HELY STREET, WYONG
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2012 ,
COMMENCING AT 5:00 PM

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1 December 2011
To the Ordinary Meeting

Director's Report
Corporate Services Department

3.2 Lakes Beach Eco-Tourism Proposal

TRIM REFERENCE: - D02840833

MANAGER: Lesley Crawley, Manager Corporate Governance

AUTHOR: Susanna Gardiner; Councillor Services Officer

SUMMARY

Report on Eco Tourism at Lakes Beach resolved from Council's Ordinary Meeting of 9 November 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the report and resolution relating to the Lakes Beach Eco-Tourism Proposal.

BACKGROUND

Council at its meeting held on 9 November 2011 considered a report on the Lakes Beach Eco-Tourism Proposal. At that meeting it was resolved as follows:

"RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor WYNN and seconded by Councillor VINCENT:

- 1 That Council resolve not to support any development, including an eco resort on this Crown land as a result of the findings of the ecological studies undertaken by Conacher Environmental Group at Lakes Beach.*
- 2 That Council refer the final Ecological Report be referred to Council's Environment and Natural Resource Section for consideration and appropriate action.*
- 3 That Council request the Director of Environment and Planning to seek out investigate and report back to Council on other areas in Wyong Shire that would support Eco-Tourism developments including the possibility of a joint venture with the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council.*
- 4 That Council re-endorse the unanimous Council resolution from August 2009, supporting that the area between Werepi St Noraville and the Munmorah State Recreation park be placed under E2 (Environmental Conservation) in the current LEP review.*

- 5 That Council thank Hargraves Beach Dunecare, Budgewoi Beach Dunecare, & Lakes Beach Dunecare for their many hours of dune rehabilitation work on the Lakes Beach site and acknowledge objections and outrage of many local community groups to the Eco Tourism resort proposal on the established Lakes Beach Dunecare site.

- 6 That Council request that the Land and Property Management revoke the license to investigate the development of Lot 7318 DP 1148096 from Werepi St Noraville to the Munmorah State Recreation park.

- 7 That Council refer the final Ecological Report to be distributed to the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary, Coastal and Floodplain Management Committee.

FOR: COUNCILLORS BEST, GRAHAM, MATTHEWS, MCBRIDE, MCNAMARA,
SYMINGTON, VINCENT, WEBSTER AND WYNN

AGAINST: COUNCILLOR EATON"

The findings will be sent to Committee members once available.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

9 November 2011
To the Ordinary Meeting

Director's Report
Corporate Services Department

4.8 Lakes Beach Eco-Tourism Proposal

TRIM REFERENCE: - D02828182

MANAGER: Bob Platt, Acting Director Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Garry McLachlan; Manager Business Development

SUMMARY

Reporting on the findings of the ecological studies undertaken by Conacher Consulting on Crown land located immediately south of the Lakes Surf Club.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 That Council resolves not to support any development, including an eco resort on Crown land south of the Lakes Surf Club as a result of the findings of the ecological studies undertaken by Conacher Environmental Group.
- 2 That Council refer the final Ecological Report be referred to Councils Environment and Natural Resource Section for consideration and appropriate action.
- 3 That Council undertake additional investigations on land identified in the Conacher report located between the southern and centre car parks and including the car parks, with a view to establishing whether this portion of land could be suitable for the establishment of a quality eco-resort.
- 4 That Council refer the final Ecological Report be distributed to the Estuary Management Committee.

ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2011

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor WYNN and seconded by Councillor VINCENT:

- 1 That Council resolve not to support any development, including an eco resort on this Crown land as a result of the findings of the ecological studies undertaken by Conacher Environmental Group at Lakes Beach.
- 2 That Council refer the final Ecological Report be referred to Council's Environment and Natural Resource Section for consideration and appropriate action.
- 3 That Council request the Director of Environment and Planning to seek out investigate and report back to Council on other areas in Wyong Shire that would support Eco-Tourism developments including the possibility of a joint venture with the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council.

- 4 ***That Council re-endorse the unanimous Council resolution from August 2009, supporting that the area between Werepi St Noraville and the Munmorah State Recreation park be placed under E2 (Environmental Conservation) in the current LEP review.***
- 5 ***That Council thank Hargraves Beach Dunecare, Budgewoi Beach Dunecare, & Lakes Beach Dunecare for their many hours of dune rehabilitation work on the Lakes Beach site and acknowledge objections and outrage of many local community groups to the Eco Tourism resort proposal on the established Lakes Beach Dunecare site.***
- 6 ***That Council request that the Land and Property Management revoke the license to investigate the development of Lot 7318 DP 1148096 from Werepi St Noraville to the Munmorah State Recreation park.***
- 7 ***That Council refer the final Ecological Report to be distributed to the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary, Coastal and Floodplain Management Committee.***

FOR: COUNCILLORS BEST, GRAHAM, MATTHEWS, MCBRIDE, MCNAMARA, SYMINGTON,
VINCENT, WEBSTER AND WYNN

AGAINST: COUNCILLOR EATON

BACKGROUND

In 2007 Council resolved to compile a bid to secure the rights to host the 2010-2012 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships and selected the Lakes Beach as the venue for the Championships. The bid included substantial back of beach works which included large grassed areas with picnic tables and amenities not only for those attending the event, but also for members of our community to utilise when the event concluded. The master plan included boardwalks, car parking areas and included a large amphitheatre and grandstand in the area immediately south of the surf club in the location where the current proposal is located. Despite public consultation no adverse comments were received and had Council been successful in this bid the back of beach area and the area in question would be vastly different today.

Recognising the need for quality accommodation nodes within the northern portion of the Shire, Council through its operational plans continued to investigate opportunities on Crown Land in the vicinity of the Lakes Beach Surf Club.

In 2010 a site constraints review was undertaken by Conacher Consulting to assess whether potential existed for the establishment of an eco resort on Crown Land south of the Lakes Surf Club. The report targeted flora and fauna issues with the survey not detecting any endangered ecological communities within the area of interest, but did identify vegetation groups Littoral rainforest and Swamp Sclerophyll Forest, recognised endangered ecological communities, at the southern extremity of the study area.

In October 2010 Council was alerted to the presence of native orchids in the study area, however the flowering season was at its end and it was determined to wait a further 12 months and undertake the survey for orchids in the flowering season.

Following a question without notice by Councillor Best a report on the status of the project was submitted to Council on the 22nd June 2011 and Council resolved to continue with the ecological studies until they have been concluded, with the following resolution adopted;

“RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor GRAHAM and seconded by Councillor WEBSTER:

- 1 *That Council note the recommendations of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Coastal and Floodplain Management Committee - Eco-Tourism Park Proposal.*
- 2 *That Council defer any decision regarding its support or opposition to the proposal pending completion of all relevant ecological studies due October 2011.*
- 3 *That Council consider a report on the ecological studies.*

FOR: COUNCILLORS BEST, EATON, GRAHAM, MATTHEWS, MCBRIDE, MCNAMARA, SYMINGTON AND WEBSTER

AGAINST: COUNCILLOR VINCENT”

DISCUSSION

After the resolution of Council in June staff met with the consulting ecologist and identified the best approach to proceed in this matter. It was determined that the area should be thoroughly searched to determine the extent of the orchid population and to ensure that the results were accurate.

A targeted survey on Orchid species, in particular *Caladenia porphyrea*, was undertaken by Conacher Consulting in August through to October, the flowering season. The objectives of the targeted survey were;

- 1 The flowering period of *Caladenia porphyrea* within the investigation area;
- 2 An estimate of the distribution of the local population of *Caladenia porphyrea*;
- 3 An estimate of the size of the local population of *Caladenia porphyrea* present within the investigation area.
- 4 Identify and record all other species of orchids.

The survey work commenced on 1 July 2011 with the first flower observed on 26 August 2011. The survey is concluded when no flowers are observed for two consecutive weekly surveys. This occurred on the 17 October 2011.

Whilst the orchid survey recorded all orchids encountered during the investigation the survey targeted the endangered species *Caladenia porphyrea*. The survey found 813 plants in 85 clumps of *Caladenia porphyrea* in a location immediately south of the Lakes Surf Club.

This species of orchid is listed as an endangered species under the Threatened Species Conservation Act and the isolated location of the population may enable the area to be listed as an endangered population under the Threatened Species Conservation Act. Accordingly the report will be referred to council's Environment and Natural Resource section for action. The survey for *Caladenia porphyrea* is attached as appendix 2.

After discovery of the flowering *Caladenia* orchids, searches to the north and south of the survey site were carried out to determine the extent of the orchid population. Orchids were not discovered in either these areas.

The survey indicated that the areas to the south of the subject site includes the Sclerophyll Forest and the Littoral Rainforest whilst the areas to the north located between the southern and centre car park and a small area north of the centre car park has no significant native vegetation and is heavily impacted by weeds including bitou bush. The report states that from an ecological viewpoint the area north of the Lakes Surf Club is an area that could be utilised for an eco resort.

The report concludes that future development within the area south of the Lakes Surf Club is likely to be highly constrained due to the presence of vegetation classified as endangered ecological communities and the distribution of a local population of the endangered terrestrial orchid species *Caladenia porphyrea*.

The consultant has advised that the final ecological report will be completed in time to present to the 14 December 2011 meeting in Council. The final report will be useful as a reference document for Council's Sustainability and Natural Resources section.

The two Ecological reports provided by Conacher Consulting to date have cost \$11,800 ex GST.

It is therefore recommended that Council not support any form of development on crown Land south of the Lakes Surf Club.

TOURISM AND ACCOMODATION IN WYONG SHIRE

It has been recognized for some time that quality tourist accommodation nodes are lacking in the northern section of Wyong Shire. Indeed the last 2 quality accommodation facilities established in Wyong Shire were Magenta Shores and Koowinda Waters, which have now been established for a number of years

Council has previously recognized the dire state of accommodation in the north of the Shire and has required Central Coast Tourism to assist Council in improving this state by assigning a specific task relating to improving tourist destinations in the north of the Shire in their funding agreement.

It is recognized that local and international tourists are expecting more than a holiday they are expecting an experience and a location that will attract their return.

The Queensland Government has recently adopted a policy that encourages sustainable nature based tourism within National Parks and five World heritage areas which are internationally renowned for their beauty, diversity and unique natural values.

On the 2 December 2009 the Department of Planning under the then Labour Government introduced an LEP Practice note (PN 09-006) that provided guidelines for local government to consider tourism opportunities which included eco tourism and back packing facilities in the Environmental protection Zones E2,E3,E4. The Government took this direction as it recognized the potential to boost tourism and create employment in New South Wales.

Other Local Government areas have utilized locations that have high public appeal to create destinations that have an appeal both locally and internationally. Cabins have been installed in the trees of the Daintree, on cliff faces in the Great Barrier Reef National Park, within National Parks in New South Wales and along beaches in Queensland and Western Australia.

Coastal Councils are also installing boardwalks along coastal trails to entice tourists, indeed Council has received funding for a boardwalk along the coastal strip at The Entrance. Lake Macquarie Council has cantilevered a cycle way over Lake Macquarie and it is used by thousands. Newcastle City Council are considering a coastal boardwalk elevated on high coastal cliff faces and have under construction a restaurant nightspot on the beach at Merewether.

Whilst the northern portion of Wyong Shire is not in the same category as some of the Queensland and New South Wales locations it certainly does have some unique and beautiful locations, with the Lakes Beach precinct being one such location.

It must also be recognized that there are not many locations in this portion of the Shire that could cater for a four star plus eco resort. The opportunity to develop a quality accommodation node on the beach in a pristine location such as the Lakes must not be lost.

It is understood that managing growth while conserving natural values is a balancing act but by working collaborately with all stakeholders, balance can be achieved.

ALTERNATIVE SITE LAKES BEACH PRECINCT

The consultant Conacher Consulting has identified an area north of the Lakes Surf Club that from an ecological viewpoint would be a viable alternative for the establishment of an eco resort. The identified site has an area of approximately 3 Hectares and includes a 3,000 sm tar sealed car park and toilet block.

The ecological report indicates that the same constraints in relation to endangered ecological communities and endangered or vulnerable plant species have not been identified within the two areas of land to the north of the car park area. These areas of land contain areas of moderate to highly degraded regrowth dune vegetation with high levels of exotic weed invasions present.

The site is located between the dune and Budgewoi Road, it is a narrow and elongated parcel of land but is located within close proximity to the Lakes Surf Club.

Site 1 identified in the Conacher report is located within the Lakes Beach United Dune Care precinct but has not been subject to any restoration. Council's records indicate that the group has completed some works on the dune immediately north of the surf club. The records also indicate that in the area of interest weed density is 70-100% with bitou bush being the dominant species.

Site 2 identified in the Conacher report is located within the Budgewoi Beach Dune Care precinct, but to date no restoration has taken place in this area. Indeed the Dune Care Action Plan for this precinct identifies that no work is planned in this area for the upcoming year.

The site has a number of challenges including sea level rise, being located within the 50 year recession line and SEPP 71 to mention a few.

Council's position on an eco resort has always been to construct a facility with no bricks and mortar, but to strategically locate cabins and modern tents throughout the site, retaining significant vegetation and connect the accommodation facilities with raised boardwalks.

Therefore should sea level rise or the sea top the recession line the facilities could be moved to higher ground in a short period of time. It must also be recognized that should either of these two events take place all vegetation within the area of inundation would also be impacted upon and ultimately perish.

The establishment of an eco resort in this precinct would provide many advantages to the community including;

- Creating an alternative revenue stream that could provide up to \$600,000 annually to the precinct through a process similar to existing cluster fund arrangements. The funding could be directed to Land care groups, the surf club and provide assistance to the disabled beach precinct. Council's annual commitments are becoming more difficult to fund from existing budgets and alternative sources must be found
- The area that currently has 70-100% weed invasion would be regenerated with native species as part of the landscape plan for any development.
- The existing tar sealed car park can be significantly reduced in size and some of the area being regenerated with native species.
- Employment opportunities for our community.
- Provide boardwalks that connect existing residential communities to the patrolled surfing beach.
- The establishment of an interpretive centre that would showcase land care, coastal management techniques, the marine environment and indigenous history

Council currently manages tourist parks in similar locations, Toowoan Bay is located on a high fore dune overlooking North Shelly Beach and Canton Beach and Budgewoi tourist parks are located on the shores of Tuggerah and Munmorah Lakes respectively. Privately owned facilities such as Kim's at Toowoan Bay and Blue Lagoon at Bateau Bay are established just above the high water mark and within the 50 year recession line.

The site identified in the aerial photo attached as Appendix 2 is worthy of further investigation if Council is to meet the challenges of providing quality accommodation facilities within our Shire. It will therefore be recommended to Council that further investigations be carried out to determine whether the site located north of the Lakes surf club is suitable for an eco resort.



View of Bitou Bush infestation of site 1



View Carpark north of site 1

ECONOMIC and FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT of ECO RESORT

As the proposal is at a conceptual stage a detailed financial assessment of the project has not been undertaken. However, to give Councillors an understanding of the likely financial impacts of such a program it is assumed that the first stage will consist of fifty high end accommodation nodes (cabins/tents) being located on site.

Financial models of similar existing facilities indicate that a 70% occupancy rate would net a return of approximately \$600,000 per annum after all expenses, including the CALM levy, would be achieved.

It is broadly estimated that it will cost \$5,000,000 to develop the first stage with funding being available through a variety of sources including internal loans, loans from the LPMA, grants and Regional Development Australia. Should Council decide to proceed with the project a detailed economic analysis will be undertaken.

It is recognised that the northern part of Wyong Shire is depressed and requires an injection of wealth. The area suffers from high youth unemployment and a lack of quality accommodation outlets. Indeed, several existing motels within the Toukley district have been forced to resort to secure an income stream by accommodating Department of Housing and Welfare clients, not tourists.

The establishment of a quality accommodation node in this area would be a significant benefit to the community in general.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

It is recognised that for a variety of reasons community consultation during the formation of the project to establish an eco resort on Crown land south of the Lakes Surf Club was inadequate.

This was highlighted by the public protests and community meeting organized by a small but concerned section of the community.

It is regrettable that council's poor performance in this area has led to an amount of misinformation being distributed to the general community. Council must learn from this lesson and if it decides to proceed with further investigations on the alternative site then a communication and consultation strategy must be developed with input from the community and interested groups.

It is encouraging to note that the community members who opposed the eco resort have consistently said it was not the concept that they opposed but the location. This point of view was highlighted in an article in the 2 September 2011, Express Advocate. The article showcased a site meeting between some community members and the Deputy Opposition leader in New South Wales, Linda Burney, in which the dune care members and Ms Burney stated "none of the members are against an eco village style development, just not in this location".

During any consultation Council must ensure that it achieves a balanced response bearing in mind that Wyong Shire now has 150,000 residents.

CONCLUSION

The ecological studies undertaken by Conacher Environmental Group have confirmed the existence of a substantial population of the endangered orchid *Caladenia porphyrea* in the area proposed to establish an eco resort. These results support Council's direction to complete the studies and await the ecologist's findings was the correct decision.

The investigations carried out by Conacher revealed a 2-3 Hectare site north of the surf club that has no ecological issues and therefore may be suitable for an eco resort. The area is heavily weed infested and includes an old tar sealed Carpark and toilet block. Considering the views expressed by the opponents to the development south of the surf club being that they are not opposed to an eco resort just the location south of the club, this site may be more acceptable to the community.

Council has expressed support in a number of documents and articles to improving tourism opportunities within the northern portion of the Shire and an eco resort would meet this commitment. An eco resort would also create an on going revenue stream that could be injected into environmental and community services within this precinct.

It is acknowledged that there are many challenges associated with this project but there are also many opportunities. Council can create a tourist facility that will gain world wide recognition and inject considerable wealth into our community. Development in recent times has stagnated particularly within Wyong Shire and this is an opportunity for Council to lead the way forward by developing a high quality tourist resort.

Based on the results it is recommended that Council resolve not to support any form of development on Crown Land south of the Lakes Surf Club.

It is also recommended that Council proceed to engage the community and investigate the site north of the Lakes Surf Club for the establishment of an eco resort.

ATTACHMENTS

- | | | | |
|----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | Site Constraints Review - Possible Caravan Park Central Coast Highway Budgewoi - January 2010 (ref 9128b) | Enclosure | D02828261 |
| 2 | Preliminary Report on Targeted Survey for Caladenia Porphyrea - Lakes Beach Budgewoi - November 2011 (ref 9128), including figure 1 - Location of Orchids and figure 2 - Additional search locations | Enclosure | D02828252 |
| 3 | Lakes Beach Precinct | Enclosure | D02828369 |



Wyong Shire Council Report 2011/12

2nd Quarter: October December 2011

Report Highlight

In the year ended September 2011, the Central Coast received a significant increase in overnight visitation – up by 2.5% (about 30,000 additional overnight visits). This is the first increase in tourism visitation to the Central Coast in 5 years. International visitation has also shown growth, albeit off a small base.

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Value of Tourism to Wyong Shire and the Central Coast

Tourism delivers \$782 million in expenditure to the Central Coast annually
 (National Visitor Survey Data, Tourism Research Australia, Dec 2008)

Tourism employs almost 8000 people in the Federal Electorate of Dubell.

Electorate of Dubell

COMPOSITION OF RESIDENTS' EMPLOYMENT			
Industry Sector	Employment (full-time equivalent)	% of total Employment	National Average
Tourism	3,884	8.2%	3.7%
Accommodation/Casinos/Gambling	498		
Coffee/Restaurants/Pubs/Cafe/Taverns	681		
Tourism total	928		
Tourism-related transport	278		
Other tourism	786		
Transport (non tourism-related)	1,648	3.4%	2.5%
Air/Water	78		
Road/Vehicle Hiring	1,600		
Rail	928		
Other	51,352	92.0%	91.8%
Manufacturing (non tourism-related)	2,727	5.6%	11.0%
Agriculture/forestry/fishing	204	1.1%	0.9%
Mining	165	0.3%	0.6%
Other	48,256	89.1%	78.0%
TOTAL	58,884	100%	100%

Central Coast Tourism Key Achievements

Under the Memorandum of Understanding with Wyong Shire Council

- New major events secured for the Central Coast (NSW Regional Senior Rugby Union Championships and SEGRA Conference 2012) lead by Central Coast Tourism's Business and Tourism Events Manager
- The Entrance Tourism and Economic Development Plan finalised— presented to WSC staff in November 2011. Continued work on the Entrance Masterplan and with the Revitalisation group
- Continued development of mobile concierge program with Opus, Ad IQ and Wyong Council – Opus presented at Central Coast Tourism AGM.
- Central Coast Tourism membership continues to grow, now standing at 255 members- the largest membership contingent in Central Coast Tourism's history
- \$280,000 of cooperative marketing funds delivered to Central Coast Tourism members through the NSW Regional Tourism Partnership Program
- www.ourcentralcoast.tv – The Central Coast's own youtube channel- launched for the summer season 2011
- \$250,000 allocated to 9 projects on the Central Coast for tourism product development purposes. The Tourism Minister will announce successful applicants in January. Projects in Wyong are likely to include North Head Lighthouse, Central Coast Wetlands and Pioneer Dairy, Lakes Beach Disability Project and Central Coast Escapes (Forest of Tranquility)
- Continued work with the Northern Lakes Disability Tourism Project – website created
- Central Coast Tourism has appointed Australian Attractions Group to represent the destination in the international markets. Australian Attractions Group have already developed a marketing plan and visited key tour operators including Moonabeena, Cedar Park Lavender, Treestops Adventure Park and Camp Breakaway which has been identified as a key product for large inbound Asia groups. Packages now developed and in market for Camp Breakaway.
- Annual Report produced and AGM held on the 5th of December. Report distributed to all councillors.

Key Deliverables to Wyong Shire Council through the new Memorandum of Understanding 2011 - 2013

Deliverable	Status	Comment
1. Recognition of Wyong Shire Council funding by recognition through branding	Achieved and Ongoing	Agreed opportunities for council recognition and implemented logos on website, membership prospectus, Admin report, etc
2. Signage at events to recognise Wyong Shire Council's sponsorship	Achieved and Ongoing	Council signage welcomed at events when required.
3. Promote tourism and events in Wyong Shire in conjunction with STC, WCC, TETCM	Achieved & ongoing	Events assistance and promotion provided to numerous Wyong Shire events – see pages 10 and 12
4. Deliver and Support VIC Services across the Central Coast	Achieved & ongoing	TETCM MCOU remains in place. Ongoing Training to TETCM provided. Attended TR backpackers launch.
5. Deliver the DMP	Achieved and Ongoing	Old P priorities largely achieved within 12 months of plan being released – Annual Report provides full update
6. Include an Eco-tourism strategy and Disability tourism strategy within business plan	Completed	Business plan completed and provided to Central Coast Tourism board – WCC representatives. Disability Tourism Precinct brochure Completed and Website built by CCT.
7. Commitment to engage in airport project	Completed	Central Coast Tourism has publicly advocated for the establishment of Sydney's second airport on the coast
8. Commitment to support improved mobile service coverage in VIC	In process	Working with Optus and AIO IQ on mobile service project
9. Provide a commitment to the Tourism Strategy for the Northern part of the Shire	In process	CCT active working partner on Disability Tourism Precinct and involved in Greater Bulkeley Vision
10. Provide a commitment to sporting tourism events	Completed	Central Coast Tourism actively bidding for new sporting events – Senior Rugby Union, Baseball Championships, NZA Surfing etc.

Central Coast Destination Management Plan Report

Priority 1: Activate the Waterfront

■ In conjunction with Regional Development Australia, NSW Industry & Investment, Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council, CCT is leading the development of a Regional Tourism Investment & Infrastructure Plan for the Central Coast. Consultant commissioned, literature review completed. Prioritization of infrastructure projects planned for January-March. Assessment criteria confirmed. RDA have finalized the prioritizations in December

■ Facilitating The Entrance revitalisation and enhancement steering groups. Central Coast Tourism commissioned Andrew Hall/ Lantz Marshall to produce an economic and tourism development plan for The Entrance to feed directly into The Entrance Masterplan being implemented by council. Report now complete and presented to WSC staff November 2011.

■ Work continues in conjunction with CERDC for boardwalk improvements for The Entrance

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Priority 2: Enhance and promote the lifestyle and culture of the Central Coast

Central Coast Tourism developed a major new "Tourism Splash Discount Card" introduced to the market and received overwhelming interest – the card provides 2 for 1 deals across Central Coast Tourism members with approx 1/3 of the business participating located in the Wyong Shire. To the end of November, approx 4000 cards were downloaded from www.visitcentralcoast.com.au, with approx the same amount printed and distributed over the period of the card's validity.

Central Coast Tourism provided the opportunity for all members to apply for marketing funding from Destination NSW through the Regional Partnership Program 2012. As at the time of compiling the report, only one Wyong Shire based business, Mercure Kooinjah Waters has applied for the funding, conversely 9 Gosford Shire based businesses applied for funding.

New campaign websites www.ourcentralcoast.nsw.gov.au and www.getoutofsydney.com.au are now active.

Released the Sydney Surrounds Brochure Showcasing product to the international market. ATAC Marketplace in Sydney was the first distribution point. Six Wyong Shire members feature in the brochure:

- o Treetop Adventure Park
- o Pelican Feeding at the Entrance
- o Mingara Recreation Club
- o Oaks Waterfront Resort The Entrance
- o Mercure Kooinjah Waters
- o Quay West Magenta Shore

Priority 3: Attract and grow here, business and tourism events

- A comprehensive list of prioritized target leads for new events to attract to the Central Coast has been developed and sent to representatives of council.
- Central Coast Tourism through the Tourism and Business Events Manager role is now securing new events for the region (NSW Rugby Union Championships and 926GA confirmed).
- More announcements on successful event bids coming in January (NSW Surf Lifesaving for 2012/14)
- Central Coast Events Alliance meetings continue to be held – last meeting attracted more than 35 participants and continues to be an important and valued program for event coordinators on the Central Coast
- Business Events strategy in development with Tourism Hunter, Blue Mountains and Wollongong Tourism
- \$52,000 worth of business events qualitative research undertaken and report delivered to key stakeholders on the challenges of attracting business events to Regional Sydney

Priority 4: Improve partnerships, packaging and accessibility

Central Coast tourism operators were highly successful at the State Tourism Awards. Mercurie Koondah Waters received Silver award in the category of Meetings & Business Tourism

Currently working with Coastal Liner on product famil for Central Coast Tour Group Organisers. There is a possibility that two itineraries will be developed in 2012 one for the Northern End of the Coast and the other for the Southern end of the Coast.

Mercurie Koondah Waters was the host venue for the October Member Networking Night. Approx 50 members in attendance.

Provided membership with opportunity to host Member Networking Nights. The following Wyong Shire based business have confirmed their hosting:

- Old Wyong Dairy – February
- Wyong Race Course – July
- Mingara – A&M/December

International Members provided with the opportunity to participate in the Hong Kong Virgin Atlantic Access Pass. Only Treetop Adventure Park based in Wyong Shire opted to participate in the program.

Meet with the owners of the FS Cafes who have offered the opportunity to promote the region in their two store via Destination Focus artwork on their walls and distribution of 2012 Guides. Artwork will be ready to be installed at the end of January 2012.

Uploaded National Parks Whale Watching App link to Wyalalalong National Park and Munmorah State Conservation Area pages. included into to App in our social media activities.

General Support Provided to The Entrance Town Centre Management and Wyong Shire

- Grant application support for Christmas 2012
- Provided onsite BookEasy training to TETCM
- Collected bookings activity and report for TEVIC team
- Working with TETCM on the Central Coast Music Festival expansion for 2012
- TETCM VIC team invited to participate in tourism operator familiarisations
- Provided advice and assistance to TETCM on the Federal Government TQUAL grants program 2011
- Conducted an assessment of Treetops Adventure Park to assist in attaining RTA directional signage
- Advised Optus on their grant application to develop Wyong smartphone application technology- grant successful
- International marketing meetings with Moonawonga, Cedar Park Lavender, Treetops Adventure Park and Camp Breakaway
- Conducted onsite BookEasy training to staff at Toowoona Bay Holiday Park
- Provided support to Pioneer Dairy - Central Coast Wetland, TETCM, Merah Head Lighthouse, Sculpture on the Greens, Coastal Liner, Central Coast Eco Tours, Mezure Koobinda Waters for Tourism Product Development Fund
- Attended the Wyong Race Club and H&H Catering new opportunities planning meeting to explore new products and market segments

Media Interaction & Exposure for Wyong Shire Tourism Operators

- Sydney Weekender stories on the Norah Head Lighthouse Tour and Lighthouse Quarters aired in October 2011.

- Coordinated Itinerary for freelance Journalist, Deborah Dixon-Smith, a contributor to NineMSN travel and Little Nomads. Itinerary incorporated the following Wyong Shire experiences:

- Lunch at Mingara
- Pelican Feeding, The Entrance
- Adventure at TreeTop Adventure Park

Link to article:

<http://travel.nine.com.au/Travel/News/thisweekend/1637698/showcomments.html>

- This blog attracts approx 800,000 unique visitors per month

- OurCentralCoast.TV

- Express Advocate and NBN TV featured ourCentral Coast.TV in December

- Harvest Trail TV

- Organised filming of Norah Head Lighthouse, Little Creek Cheese, Tweedon Bay Holiday Park and Pelican Feeding at The Entrance for this website aimed at the backpacker and grey nomads market.

Issued the following Media releases

- Open invitation for media to 'Get out of Sydney'
- Central Coast partnership attracts major conference – announcement of SEBRA (trade and conference media distribution)
- Regional Tourism Funding Available for Central Coast Tourism Operators (local media)
- Central Coast to feature in a \$120K media campaign for Australia's top tourism drive, The Legendary Pacific Coast Touring Route

Travel Alerts

Submitted relevant information for the following travel alerts:

- GQ Travel – responding to their requests to be sent family opportunities
- Luxury Hotels, Affluent Magazine
- Eco Luxury Hotels Editorial Reviews, EcoLuxHotels.com
- Useful Travel Sites and Apps, publication only identified as major national publication
- Hotels & Apartment Hotels Feature, Travel Bulletin
- Holidays With Teenagers, Sun Herald

Media Releases Issued for Wyong Shire Tourism Operators



Splash About on the NSW Central Coast with 2 for 1 Offers

Splash About Card includes the following Wyong Shire based businesses:

- o Chipmunks Tuggerah Playland & Cafe
- o Mingara One Aquatics
- o Mingara Playhouse
- o Pro Dive Central Coast
- o Stelly Beach Golf Club
- o TreeTop Adventure Park
- o The Coachman Motor Inn
- o Events with Pizzaz
- o Kings Beach Hideaway
- o Mercure Koolinda Waters
- o Ocean Front Motel



Central Coast Tourism Operators Take Home Eight Gold Awards

Press Releases including the following Wyong Shire based businesses:

- o TreeTops Adventure Park
- o Norah Head Holiday Park
- o Mercure Koolinda Waters

Quotations/New Leads for Conference/Event Business
in Wyong Shire

- Secured Senior Country Rugby Union Championships March 2012: Morrie Breen Oval.
- Otago 2012 Junior Senior State Cup Championships: Various playing fields Wyong Shire and funding being assessed.
- 2013 ARC (Australian Rally Championships): Early stage of consultation and assessment regarding track suitability and funding resources.
- Assisting to conduct the "Garry Thomas Pro-Am Sprinters and Distance Runner event" October 1st 2011. Mingara.
- Assisting organizer to secure and conduct State Road Relay Event, Curritohki Campus 2012
- Central Coast Poultry Club: assistance and support for the relocation of their significant event space from Wyong Race Club to Warnervale airport site.
- Attended ABEE (Australian Business Events Expo) promoting and selling Central Coast conference venues and suppliers, including: Mingara, Koondah Waters, Magenta Shores to PCO and Event Organisers.
- Attended various networking functions including BE Sydney, Grant and Pixel Make training.
- Attended Conference and Business Events Research launch Sydney.

Northern Lakes Disability Tourism Precinct Initiative

- The Northern Lakes Precinct has been identified as a primary growth area on the Central Coast for enhancement and further product development and infrastructure catering for a more senior demographic. The Northern Lakes Disability Tourism Precinct Committee consists of concerned Central Coast, NSW residents, regional peak disability organisations and respite providers.
- New website created www.accessibletourism.com.au to showcase accessible accommodation, attractions, activities, transport and facilities. Successful referral for accessible accommodation 'MORAN' and provided information for things to do in the Northern Lakes area.
- Participated in audit of accessibility for Central Coast Tourism office located at Kariong.
- Attended Disability Expo hosted at Mingara Recreation Club
- Attended monthly meetings and supported KILAK installations across WSC LGA.
- Promoted Community Restaurant – The Entrance, Chittaway Motel and Meruma Koondah Waters

Wyong Shire industry meetings attended

- The Entrance Revitalisation sessions
- The Entrance Masterplanning sessions
- Chromefest Planning
- Northern Lakes Disability Tourism Product Committee meetings
- Regional Development Australia Infrastructure meetings
- Curtinbah TAFE Tourism Student Research Program
- Social Enterprise Connect
- Wyong TAFE – Student Workplace Training meeting
- Enterprise Connect – Group Business Review
- Jobs on the Coast
- Senior Rugby Union Championships meeting
- BARRA Bid meeting
- Australian Rally Competition meeting
- Central Coast Regional Plan
- Central Coast Innovations Festival 2012 meeting
- Events Alliance – Wyong Race Club
- Coastal Limer Central Coast Familiarisation meeting

Wyong Shire Tourism Operator Site Inspections

- Cedar Lavendar
- Breakaway
- Treestops Adventure Park
- Norah Head Lighthouse Quarters & Tower
- Oaks Waterfront Resort
- The Entrance Visitor Information Centre
- Norah Head Holiday Park
- Waldorf Apartment Hotel The Entrance
- Blue Lagoon Beach Resort
- Tareeoon Bay Holiday Park
- Allamanda Retreat
- Little Creek Cheese
- Mercure Koorindah Waters Resort
- Mingara
- Hidden Valley

Central Coast Tourism Promotion of Events in Wyong Shire

Through www.visitcentralcoast.com.au, as well as Social Media (Twitter and Facebook), visitnsw.com and iMag editorials

- Psychic and Alternative Fair, Mingara Recreational Club
- Charity Trivia Night, Wyong Rugby Club
- Gems and Treasures Festival, Mingara Recreational Club
- Mingara Relay For Life, Mingara Recreational Club
- Westpac Rescue Charity Golf Day, Quay West Resort Magenta Shores
- Melbourne Cup Lunch at Wyong, Wyong Race Club
- Hidden Valley One Day Event, Hidden Valley, Curimbah
- Central Coast Kids Day Out, Wyong Race Club
- SeeFM RSPCA Trivia Night, Mingara Recreational Club
- Cent. Coast Mountain Bike Festival, Curimbah
- San Remo "My Park" Festival, San Remo
- The Entrance Town Centre Masterplan Public Exhibition, Presentation and Workshop, The Entrance
- Long Jetty Carols by Torchlight, Long Jetty
- San Remo & Blue Haven Christmas, Blue Haven Sports Oval
- The Super Jam at The Dam, North Wyong
- Carols by Candlelight at Breakaway, San Remo
- Mums Share The Love Boutique Market, Mingara Recreational Club
- Christmas Under the Stars, Mingara Recreational Club
- Mingara's Christmas Under The Stars, Mingara
- Weekend Entertainment: The Entrance

- Carols by Candlelight: The Entrance
- Christmas Retail Trading Hours, Westfield Tuggerah
- Christmas Day Lunch on the Coast, The Entrance, Mingara, Doyalson, Wyong
- Weekend Entertainment at Mingara
- Central Coast GIS GUIDE, Mingara Recreational Club, Doyalson-Wyong RSL, Diggers at The Entrance
- Kids SCHOOL HOLIDAY Ideas! Mingara Recreation Club, Westfield Tuggerah, North Head Lighthouse
- New Years Eve Celebrations, The Entrance, The Beachcomber Motel, Mingara

Wyong Shore Businesses - Membership of Central Coast Tourism

Relating Central Coast Tourism members at 1st January 2011
(new members since 1st April 2010 highlighted in orange)

GS Health	Canton Beach Holiday Park	First National Real Estate
A Dozen Roses	Cedar Park Lavender Farm	Forresters Beach B&B
A Paradise Park Cabins	Chang Thai @ The Entrance	Gorgeous, Please! Hair Design
Adriik Surf	Chipmunks Tuggerah	Greater Toukley Vision
Adventures @ of Mingara	Chitaway Motel	The Greens The Entrance
Al Mare Beachfront Retreat	Que Toukley	Healing Haven
Alamanda Retreat	Coachman Motor Inn	Hibiscus Lakeside Motel
Amusement	Coastal Knowledge	Hidden Valley
Annexa's Gallery	Coastal Liner	Hunter Institute TAFE
Artistic Photography by Nicolette	Coco for Beauty Therapy	Keen 2 Tour
Bang Rak Thai	The Coffee Club Mingara	Kims Beach Hideaway
Bateau Bay Tugpin Bowling	Bestie Hair & Fashion	Lake Front Motel
Beachcomber Motel	Diggers @ The Entrance	Lake Haven Castle Cottage
Beachfront at Blue Bay	Doyalson Wyse RSL Club	Lake Haven Shopping Centre
Big 4 Lake Macquarie	Dunleith Caravan Park	Lakeside Dry Cleaners
Blue Bay Caravan Park	El Lago Waters Resort	Lakeside Tourist Park
Blue Lagoon Beach House	Hephart Shop	Lavender House B&B
Blue Lagoon Beach Resort	The Entrance ANICAL Charities	Leslie Traditional Thai Massage
Boutique B&B Group	The Entrance Arts & Craft Markets	Lisle Creek Cheese
Breakaway	The Entrance Boat House	Long Jetty Catamaran Hire
Breens B&B	The Entrance Ice Creamery	Maddies Boutique
Buccaneer Motel	The Entrance Kebabs King	Marens Koolinda Waters
Budgewoi Holiday Park	The Entrance Reef Resort	Miena's Patisserie
Burbank Nurseries	The Entrance Town Centre Mgmt	Ming Dragon
Business 2 Business	Fashion Array	Mingara Recreation Club

North Head Holiday Park
NSW National Parks & Wildlife
Oaks Waterfront Resort
Ocean Front Motel at The Entrance
Orana Holiday Units
Pro Dive
Quey West Magenta Stores
Red Baron Tours
Red Bus Coach Service
Richard's Old Bookshop
Riviera B&B
Rotary Club of the Entrance
Shelly Beach Cabins
Shelly Beach Golf Club

Springfield Trails
Stockland Bay Village
Sun Valley Tourist Park
Surf Life Saving Central Coast
The Entrance Real Estate
Terry McDermott Surf Coaching
Toowoomba Bay Cottage
Toowoomba Bay Holiday Park
Toussay Chamber of Commerce
Tour de Long Jetty
Treetop Adventure Park
Two Birds Gallery
Two Shores Holiday Village
Waldorf Apartments

Warrawee Air
Waterfront Tourist Park
Westfield Tuggerah
Wyong District Museum
Wyong Regional Chamber
Yarrawolong Macadamia Farm
Zenith Tuggerah

**Total WSC LGA members : 109
Since April 2010: 56**

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Member Comparison: Sep 09 - Dec 11 (all Central Coast)

ACCOMMODATION MEMBERS	Total operating on the Coast	Member of CCT Sept 2009 (94.5% of market)	Member of CCT December 2011 (50.5% of market)
Property Type:			
Cabin Parks	24	19	16
BNB & Self Contained	70	15	34
Hotel / Resorts	28	11	11
Motels	35	10	16
Pub Stays/Backpackers	6	2	1
TOTAL	163	57	82
Clubs	Total operating on the Coast	Member of CCT Sept 2009 (19% of market)	Member of CCT July 2011 (20.66% of market)
Registered Clubs	42	8	13
Restaurants & Cafes	Total operating on the Coast	Member of CCT Sept 2009 (11% of market)	Member of CCT July 2011 (14.92% of market)
Restaurants	201	28	30

Central Coast Tourism facilitated accommodation bookings
for Wyong Shire tourism operators

Membership Year to Date – 1 April 2011 – 31 November 2011*

Property Name	Membership Level	Membership Cost	Total April-November	%CHG
A Paradise Park Cabins	Regional	\$395.00	\$0.00	-100%
Allamanda Retreat	Regional	\$395.00	\$1,041.00	163%
Allmare Beachfront Retreat	Regional	\$395.00	\$0.00	-100%
Beachfront at Blue Bay	Regional	\$395.00	\$690.00	-4%
Big 4 Montara Tourist Park	Regional	\$395.00	\$0.00	-100%
Blue Lagoon Beach Resort	Regional	\$395.00	\$5,427.00	763%
Brasserie Bed & Breakfast	Regional	\$395.00	\$395.00	-9%
Central Coast Holiday Parks	International	\$3.00	\$3,604.50	6604.5%
Chittaway Motel	Regional	\$395.00	\$610.00	54%
The Coachman Motor Inn	Regional	\$395.00	\$950.00	153%
El Lago Waters Resort	National	\$1594.00	\$450.00	291%
Hilders Lakeside Motel	Regional	\$395.00	\$625.00	57%
Kings Reach Hideaway & Central Coast Touson Bay Cottages	National	\$1594.00	\$750.00	-52%
Lake Front Motel	Regional	\$395.00	\$660.00	65%
Lake Haven Castle Cottage	Regional	\$395.00	\$576.00	45%
Lavender House by the Sea	Regional	\$395.00	\$390.00	-42%
Mercure Noolbuh Waters Golf & Spa Resort	National	\$1594.00	\$0.00	-100%
North Head Lighthouse Reserve Trust	National	\$0.00	\$71,265.00	7326%
North Head Lighthouse Tours	National	\$0.00	\$2,950.00	2850%
Oaks Waterfront Resort	Regional	\$395.00	\$2,352.00	493%
Ocean Front at The Entrance	Regional	\$395.00	\$2,507.00	953%
Quay West Resort, Magsala Shores	National	\$1594.00	\$0.00	-100%
Shelly Beach Cabins	National	\$1594.00	\$0.00	2%
Sun Valley Tourist Park	Regional	\$395.00	\$0.00	-100%
The Beachcomber	Regional	\$395.00	\$100.00	-72%
The Reef Resort - The Entrance	Regional	\$395.00	\$0.00	-100%
Two Shores Holiday Village	Regional	\$395.00	\$495.00	25%
Waldorf Apartment Hotel - The Entrance	Regional	\$395.00	\$2,642.00	5673%
Camp Breakaway REFERRAL ONLY	Regional	\$395.00		
Dunstan Tourist Park REFERRAL ONLY	Regional	\$395.00		
Lakeside Tourist Park REFERRAL ONLY	Regional	\$395.00		
Sandy Cove Apartments REFERRAL ONLY	Regional	\$395.00		
Sea n Sun Motel REFERRAL ONLY	Regional	\$395.00		

* This table does not include data from December 2011 as RSI figures had not yet been finalized. Data available in January.

Visitor Information Centre

Mail outs & Distribution Packs Oct-Dec 2011

	Oct 2011	Nov 2011	Dec 2011	Total to date
Mail outs & distribution packs	107	185	92*	384*
Email & online enquiries & Information pack requests	124	188	191*	493*

* As of December 22nd, 2011

Visitor Information Centre

Booking & Visitor Statistics Oct-Dec 11

Bookings	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	2011-11	2010-11	2011-11	YTD Jul-Dec 11*
2011	\$20,102.00	459	\$24,481.50	406	\$22,172.14	356	\$195,689.64
Bookings	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	2010-10	2010-10	2010-10	YTD Jul-Dec 10*
2010	\$26,378.00	78	\$18,865.00	78	\$16,014.00	37	\$121,175.00
Comparison %	-25%		+30%		+35%		+10%
Bookings by centre	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	2011-11	2010-11	2011-11	YTD Jul-Dec 11*
The Entrance	\$1,579.00	2	\$1,695.00	2	\$1,472.00	9	\$7,687.00
Gosford	\$0.00	0	\$200.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$454.00
Kariong	\$15,940.00	151	\$12,492.00	69	\$5,881.00	85	\$55,861.50
Interney/Online	\$12,483.00	310	\$19,184.50	337	\$14,896.14	262	\$61,507.14
Total	\$20,102.00	459	\$24,481.50	406	\$22,172.14	356	\$195,540.60

* As of December 22nd, 2011

Visitor Information Centre
 Door Counter Statistics Oct-Dec 11

Endang VIC	Oct 11	Nov 11	Dec11	YTD Oct-Dec11
2011	2,123	2238	1962*	5940*
	Oct 10	Nov 10	Dec 10	YTD Oct-Dec10
2010	1,917	2122	3073	7212
	Oct 11	Nov11	Dec11	YTD Oct-Dec11
Gosford**	470	522	495**	1487**
	Oct 11	Nov10	Dec10	YTD Oct-Dec10
2010	1150	1032	997	3225
Endang VIC	Oct 11	Nov 11	Dec11	YTD Oct-Dec11
2011	2,123	2255	1,962*	5940*

* As of December 22nd 2011.

** Gosford VIC door counter – manual head count by staff as of March 2011.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
1	Environment and Planning Services	9.5 - Notice of Motion – Sea Level Rise Notification 1 <i>Write to all property owners affected by the State Governments sea level rise policies.</i> 2 <i>Text of the letter be endorsed by Council.</i>	24 February 2010 Cr Eaton / Cr Graham	Awaiting General Counsel to submit additional information for the report to be submitted to Council.
2	General Department - Major Projects	7.6 - Notice of Motion – Wamervale Town Centre Viability <i>Staff report on the viability of developing the 1,100 units proposed for Wamervale Town Centre and possible variation of proposed densities to ensure viable town centre development.</i>	12 May 2010 Cr Eaton / Cr Best	A consultant has been engaged and commenced work on the report responding to this question.
3	Environment and Planning Services	8.1 - Notice of Motion – Clause 14 Fund Improving Conservation Outcomes <i>Investigate and report back to Council on the best use of the Clause 14 (3) (b), funds for improving conservation outcomes.</i>	14 July 2010 Cr Wynn / Cr Eaton	A briefing was held on 11 May 2011. Report to Council needs to be reviewed following the submission of the Natural Resources Management Strategy draft to Council. A report is being prepared for early 2012.
4	Community and Recreation Services	8.2 - Notice of Motion – Acknowledgement of the Darkinjung People <i>Defer this item to allow time to further consider this matter and receive further information.</i>	27 October 2010 Cr Graham / Cr Eaton	Councillor briefing has been postponed. A draft Councillor Business update is being developed.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
5	Infrastructure Management	<p>7.1 - Notice of Motion - Regional Push to Reinstate F3 Link</p> <p>1 That Council <u>form</u> a whole of Government Regional Partnership to include Gosford City Council, Wyong Shire Council and appropriate Sydney Councils (if required), Central Coast State Government Members and Federal Government Members with a view to organising a deputation to raise this issue with the Federal Government.</p> <p>2 That Council <u>urge</u> the Regional Partnership to take-up Mr Swan's offer to receive representation from the Central Coast Regional Partnership to have the F3 Link funding reinstated in the 12-13 budget.</p>	25 May 2011 Cr Best / Cr Eaton	<p>A letter has been issued to the Minister for Resources and Energy. A report will be submitted to Council once a response has been received.</p> <p>A follow up email has been sent from the General Manager to the Minister for the Central Coast and Minister for Resources and Energy.</p> <p>Still waiting on a response from the Minister for the Central Coast. It is understood that he is waiting on advice from the Minister for Roads and Ports.</p> <p>It is intended that a status report be submitted to Council in March, following a possible meeting between the Mayor and General Manager with the Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.</p>

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
6	Environment and Planning Services	<p>6.5 - Notice of Motion - Destruction of Natural Environment and Indigenous Heritage at Norah Head</p> <p>1 That Council <u>acknowledge</u> the community groups that contribute to the highly successful phenomena of whale watching at Norah Head.</p> <p>2 That Council <u>request</u> the General Manager to provide a staff report on the resultant human impact on the natural environment around Soldiers Beach at Norah Head and the report should cover preliminary details of current and proposed initiatives available for Council's consideration in managing the escalating damage to the natural and indigenous heritage.</p> <p>3 That Council <u>request</u> the report be prepared in partnership with the appropriate agencies and indigenous community.</p> <p>4 That, upon consideration of the requested report, the local land council be <u>invited</u> to address the Council meeting.</p>	13 July 2011 Cr Best / Cr Vincent	This NOM has been put on the Environment and Natural Resources Work Programme and timing will depend on the availability within the works programme to undertake unallocated projects; unlikely to occur prior to the 2nd quarter.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
7	Community and Recreation Services	<p>U26/11 - Proposed Grant Application for the Wyong Skills Centre</p> <p>1 <i>That Council <u>note and endorse</u> the funding application as submitted to the Federal Government's Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitments Program for the development of the Wyong Skills Centre on Nos 18 – 20 Margaret Street, Wyong for \$2,985,000.</i></p> <p>2 <i>That Council <u>undertake</u> an Expression of Interest process for partners to provide a suitable site and build and operate the Wyong Skills Centre.</i></p> <p>3 <i>That Council <u>consider</u> a report on the outcome of the Expression of Interest process.</i></p> <p>4 <i>That Council <u>reaffirm</u> the request for staff to investigate other larger suitable sites as possible locations for the Wyong Skills Centre.</i></p>	24 August 2011 Cr McNamara / Cr Symington	<p>Council has commenced the project planning required to implement the Expression of Interest process required by this resolution.</p> <p>The Expression of Interest has been advertised and closes on Thursday 6 October 2011. An assessment and recommendation will be undertaken by staff and then reported to Council.</p>
8	Corporate Services	<p>Q23/11 - Projected Additional Revenue Raised by Charging School to Utilise Sports Grounds</p> <p><i>“Could Council staff please advise on the projected additional annual revenue that will be raised by charging local schools to utilise Council's sports grounds and facilities?”</i></p>	24 August 2011 Cr Vincent	An answer to this question will be submitted to a Council meeting in March 2012.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
9	Environment and Planning Services	<p>8.2 - Notice of Motion - Coal Seam Gas (CSG) Inquiry That Wyong Shire Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 <u>Write and thank</u> the State Government for banning the chemicals used in the tracking process. 2 <u>Support</u> the Coal Seam Gas (CSG) inquiry being undertaken by the NSW Legislative Council; 3 <u>Call</u> on the NSW Government to ensure the role of councils is adequately considered in dealing with CSG exploration and production; and 4 <u>Calls</u> on the government to institute a full moratorium on all forms of coal seam gas drilling until the environmental, social and health impacts have been rigorously and independently assessed. 6 <u>Place</u> a prohibition on coal seam gas exploration and mining in important bushland, valuable farmland, groundwater aquifers and public lands. 	14 September 2011 Cr Wynn / Cr Vincent	Letter has been forwarded to Directors for approval.
10	Environment and Planning Services	<p>Q26/11 - Pioneer Dairy "Could staff provide a 'Councillor Update' on the current status of Wyong Shire Council in relation to the Pioneer Dairy Trust (community access / progress of site)?"</p>	14 September 2011 Cr McBride	Information has now been gathered, a report being prepared for March round of meetings.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
11	Environment and Planning Services	<p>8.2 - Notice of Motion - Development Applications for Retail Liquor Outlets & 8.6 Notice of Motion - Proliferation of Alcohol Outlets</p> <p>1 That Wyong Shire Council <u>make representation to the Crime Prevention Partnership Committee to establish a working party of this group to provide advice on any Development Application submitted for a Retail Liquor Outlet.</u></p> <p>2 If the crime prevention partnership Committee group can not form a working party then Council will <u>establish</u> a licensed premises reference group comprising of:</p> <p>a) Council Officers, including Rangers</p> <p>b) NSW Police Local Area Commander</p> <p>c) A NSW Office of Liquor and Gaming Representative</p> <p>d) Central Coast Area Health Representative</p> <p>3 That Council <u>reject</u> the further proliferation of alcohol availabilities through the recent push by the Australian Association of Convenience Stores to sell alcohol in local petrol stations.</p> <p>4 That Council <u>make formal representation on behalf of its residents and ratepayers to the current Productivity Commission's Inquiry into the industry's proposal with the grounds for objection to include but not limited to:</u></p> <p>.....(Please see minutes for complete resolution.)</p>	12 October 2011 Cr Wynn / Cr Best	Letters have been sent in respect of Resolutions 1, 2, 3 & 4; awaiting responses.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
12	Infrastructure Management	<p>5.1 - Notice of Motion - Waste Levy Charges</p> <p>1 That Council note with concern the continued State Government cost shifting and rate pegging and its effects on the social and economic status of the Shire.</p> <p>2 That Council request the General Manager to formally request the NSW Minister for the Environment to amend the Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005, or whatever other mechanism is available, to ensure the following:</p> <p>a Exemption from the payment of the waste and sustainability levy for the receipt and/or disposal of mixed waste, ENM (Excavated Natural Material) and VENM (Virgin Excavated Natural Material), from Wyong Shire Council's road construction works at its Buttonderry Waste Management Facility.</p> <p>b Return of 50% of the total annual Waste Levy paid by Wyong Shire Council for use on local road maintenance and environmental initiatives.</p> <p>c Future Waste and Sustainability Levy increases being limited to the official CPI figure.</p>	26 October 2011 Cr Webster / Cr McNamara	<p>A letter is being drafted for the General Manager's signature, formally requesting that the NSW Minister for the Environment amend the Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005 to allow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • levy exemption for ENM and VENM from Council's road works • return of 50% of the total levy paid by Council • cap future levy increases based on the CPI <p>Report is being prepared for submission in 22 February 2012 business paper.</p>

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
13	Environment and Planning	<p>5.3 - Notice of Motion - Submission to the Planning System Review Committee</p> <p>1 <i>That Council request the General Manager to make a submission to the planning system review committee highlighting problems with the current planning system including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a <i>delays particularly with rezonings, but also with other government agencies,</i> b <i>uncertain outcomes even after land has been rezoned for development,</i> c <i>infrastructure provision including alternative funding mechanisms such as muni bonds,</i> d <i>more local flexibility, one size does not fit all,</i> e <i>more local authority, empowering council to make decisions on minor rezonings and rezonings in line with adopted strategic plans</i> f <i>cheaper, simpler system.</i> <p>2 <i>Council request the General Manager to schedule a briefing, in late January or early February, on the issues paper with a view to developing a Council submission to the issues paper.</i></p>	26 October 2011 Cr Eaton / Cr Wynn	Councillor Briefing scheduled for 1 February 2012.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
14	Corporate Services	<p>6.5 - Notice of Motion - Independent Legal Advice</p> <p>1 That Council propose an amendment to the Wyong Shire Council's Policy on Facilities and Expenses for Councillors as follows (see minutes for amendment)</p> <p>2 That Council acknowledge that the proposed amendment is substantial and give public notice of its intention to amend its policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of facilities allowing 28 days for the making of public submissions.</p> <p>3 That Council adopt the amended Wyong Shire Council's Policy on Facilities and Expenses for Councillors should no significant objection be received to the proposed amendment.</p> <p>4 That Council forward the amended policy to the Director General in accordance with Section 253 of the Local Government Act, 1993.</p>	9 November 2011 Cr Symington / Cr McBride	Amendments currently being advertised.
15	Corporate Services	<p>Q29/11 - Carbon Tax on Council</p> <p>"Mr General Manager, now that the Federal Government has levied its new carbon tax and that the costing methodology is clearer, could staff please update Council on what extra costs will now likely be passed on to the ratepayers and also as to what compensation is available to offset this new tax on Council?"</p>	9 November 2011 Cr Best	Monitoring impacts forecasted will be included in the 2012-16 CSP, Annual Plan, 4YDP and LTFP.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
16	Community Recreation Services and	<p>8.1 - Notice of Motion - Improved Library Services</p> <p>1 <i>That Council recognise the rapid adoption of e-book reader technology and likely phasing out of paper books and the implications of this for Council's Library Service.</i></p> <p>2 <i>That Council consider a report on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a <i>entry into this technology possibly by way of trials,</i> b <i>benefits and disbenefits</i> c <i>budgetary implications (if any).</i> 	23 November 2011 Cr Eaton / Cr McNamara	<p>A Library Strategic Plan will be completed in the 2012/13 FY that sets out a planned vision for the Wyong Shire Library Service into the future, and incorporates how to deliver electronic content effectively to our community in the context of other changes the library can implement to respond to community needs better.</p> <p>We have commenced significant discussion with external contributors, including the State Library and various local government library services. We have looked at benchmark services, and identified some best practice we want to build on. These include NSW libraries (such as Great Lakes, Sydney City, and Willoughby) as well as other Australian and international services. We have begun some communication with these services, as well as commenced thinking through how we better link the library to the Learning Communities Strategy (and lifelong learning), similar to what the Hume Global Learning Village and Melton Shire Community Learning has achieved. We will involve these, and other, local governments in the development of the Strategy. The State Library of NSW has commenced significant work in understanding eBook and eReader options for public libraries in NSW that manages digital rights appropriately and cost effective purchase models for eBooks. Wyong staff will participate in some of the working groups for electronic content in public libraries.</p> <p>A draft of the Library Strategic Plan will be submitted to the Director Community Recreation Services in June 2012, and will be finalised and presented to Council at the end of the 2012 as currently planned.</p>

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
17	Environment and Planning Services	<p>Q32/11 - Sun Orchids</p> <p><i>"It is my understanding that sun orchids are listed as a CI Critically Endangered plant and a plan of management is required by Council:</i></p> <p><i>a Do we have a plan of management for sun orchids in Pollock Avenue, Wyong and do we know why there has been such a dramatic decline in their numbers in Pollock Avenue, Wyong?</i></p> <p><i>b It is asserted sun orchids exist on areas of the Country Music Festival site, does Council have a management plan, relating to the Sun Orchids, for this site?"</i></p>	23 November 2011 Cr Wynn	A response will be prepared for a meeting in April 2012.
18	Environment and Planning Services	<p>Q33/11 - Powerful Owl</p> <p><i>"Who is responsible for the protection of a species listed in the National Parks and Wildlife Service Atlas and who could have had this land on Wadalba Hill excised and added to the wildlife corridor when it has been known that the Powerful Owl existed and rested in this tree since 2008?"</i></p>	23 November 2011 Cr Wynn	A report is being prepared for a Council meeting in March.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
19	Environment and Planning Services	<p>8.1 – Notice of Motion – Eraring Power Station Report from EPA</p> <p>1 <i>That Council request a full report, including any recommendations from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), on the recent explosion in the transformer and subsequent fire and oil spill at Eraring Power Station on Lake Macquarie.</i></p> <p>2 <i>That Council request the EPA to include in its report:</i></p> <p>a <i>The adequacy of the maintenance schedule and testing of the power station's transformer and other equipment.</i></p> <p>b <i>Whether this maintenance performance is deemed both adequate and appropriate for proper functioning of the power station and protection of the sensitive environment in which the power station is sited.</i></p>	14 December 2011 Cr Wynn / Cr Best	Response received from EPA, to be reported back to Council at the 22 February 2012 meeting.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
20	Environment and Planning Services	<p>8.2 – Notice of Motion – Wildlife Corridor Road Kill</p> <p>1 <i>That Council note that its planned east-west major wildlife corridor is now being formalised.</i></p> <p>2 <i>That Council confirm that it seeks to provide safe aerial and terrestrial passage through the corridor by addressing safety in the 2 major road networks (the F3 and the Pacific Highway) that cut through the corridor causing major wild life road kill issues.</i></p> <p>3 <i>That Council seek assistance from the NSW RTA and the Federal Government to address the issue of safer wild life corridor crossings as seen on the NSW mid north coast.</i></p> <p>4 <i>That Council receive a report on the outcomes with regard to the request for assistance from the NSW RTA and the Federal Government.</i></p>	14 December 2011 Cr Best / Cr Wynn	A letter is being prepared for Resolution No 3 for Directors approval.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
21	Environment and Planning Services	<p>8.3 – Notice of Motion – State of the Shire Studies</p> <p>1 That Council reiterate the significance of the State of the Shire report (now encompassing the State of the Environment report) in providing a meaningful indicator of the health of our environment and our environmental performance.</p> <p>2 That Council acknowledge the results of the State of the Shire report outlining a continuing decline in seven out of eleven environmental indicators and utilise these results to inform Council's deliberations in relation to its Strategic and Annual Plan for 2012/2013.</p> <p>3 That Council consider the following at the February 2012 Workshop:</p> <p>A as part of the Annual Plan deliberations, resourcing specific studies that will provide baseline data to enable more precise reporting and measurement on the health of our environment, in responding to these declining environmental indicators .</p> <p>B give specific consideration, as part of the 2012/2013 Annual Plan process, to the resourcing of projects that will address current information gaps and enhance Council's ability to assess the decisions it makes in relation to the principle of 'improve and maintain'.</p>	14 December 2011 Cr Wynn / Cr Best	To be considered by Council during the February Weekend Workshop.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
22	Environment and Planning Services	<p>8.4 – Notice of Motion – Westfield \$750m Tuggerah Development (JOBS, JOBS, JOBS)</p> <p>1 That Council <u>note</u> the preparedness of Westfield Group to commence its 750 million dollar Tuggerah Gateway development adjoining the F3 Freeway.</p> <p>2 That Council <u>note</u> that the development will be modelled on the highly successful Norwest Business Park concept and will deliver some 2,000 jobs during construction, over 7,000 jobs on completion and delivering a total of 35,000 jobs in the region over the next 20 years.</p> <p>3 That Council <u>reaffirm</u> its commitment to local job generation, having regard to this region's unemployment rate of twice the state average and a youth unemployment rate of a massive 32%.</p> <p>4 That Council <u>seek</u> to further advocate to have the necessary State Government zonings and approvals expedited, while recognising that it is not the consent authority.</p> <p>5 That Council <u>request</u> the General Manager to report on the progress of the development to date and any impediments which are delaying the delivery of this key infrastructure and job generating project.</p>	14 December 2011 Cr Best / Cr Eaton	Letter sent to DoPI 21 December 2011. Council report will be prepared following a response from DoPI.
23	Environment and Planning Services	<p>Q34/11 – Purchase of Sections of Remaining Undeveloped Land at Wadalba Hill</p> <p>“Could staff please advise on any State or Federal funding schemes that may be available to purchase sections of the remaining undeveloped land at Wadalba Hill for conservation purposes?”</p>	14 December 2011 Cr Vincent	A report is being prepared for a Council meeting in March.

No	Department	Question Asked / Resolution	Meeting Asked/ Councillor	Status
24	Community Recreation Services and	Q35/11 – Assistance to Wyong Historical Society <i>“Could staff please advise on the assistance that can be provided by Council to the Wyong Historical Society in their endeavours to recover from the recent fire at the Alison Homestead?”</i>	14 December 2011 Cr Vincent	Meeting to be scheduled between Community & Cultural Development, Properties, Community Buildings & Heritage Planner to ascertain course of action. Insurance assessment still to be undertaken.
25	Environment and Planning Services	Q36/11 – Environmental and Threatened Species Monitoring Details – Wadalba Wildlife Corridor Management Plan <i>“Could staff make available to Council and the public Environmental and Threatened Species Monitoring Details collected under the Wadalba Wildlife Corridor Management Plan for calendar year 2008?”</i>	14 December 2011 Cr Best	An answer to this Question is being prepared for 22 February 2012 Council meeting.
26	Environment and Planning Services	Q37/11 – State of the Lake <i>“While Council recognises the efforts of staff and our Lakes Committee in endeavouring to maintain our lakes system, I note in the recently released State of the Shire Report under Environment that many categories/environs such as Coastline and Wallarah Peninsula are declining, wetlands are declining, bio-diversity is declining and numerous other environmental indicators are also declining of which all are intricately linked with our lakes system. However, the SOE indicator for the lakes system itself is identified as ‘stable’ not declining as are the surroundings. Could staff please advise Council as to the methodology that can credibly draw this conclusion and the basis for this determination?”</i>	14 December 2011 Cr Best	A report is being prepared for a Council meeting in March.
27	Community Recreation Services and	Q38/11 – Shire Wide Security Contract – Relocatable Security Cameras <i>“Can the response to previously asked Q27/11 be reported, including, priority locations, as a matter of urgency?”</i>	14 December 2011 Cr Symington	Security cameras have been installed at Wadalba amenities and Kurraba Hall. An initial Councillor Update was submitted on 10 November 2011. A further update is being prepared.

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE AND NOTICES OF MOTION REMOVED SINCE
14 DECEMBER 2011**

	Department	Question on Notice / Notice of Motion	Date Asked/ Councillor	Status
1	Corporate Services	Q39/11 – Future Questions on Notice and Councillor Business Updates	14 December 2011 Cr Symington	Answer included in this business paper.
2	Community and Recreation Services	Q30/11 Wyong Swimming Pool Grandstand	9 November 2011 Cr McBride	A Councillor Business update was posted on SharePoint on 15 June 2011. A new replacement grandstand for Wyong Pool was delivered and installed on Friday 2 December 2011. This new grandstand consists of a combination of 8 new portable grandstands seating up to 250-275 spectators. A councillor Business update informed all Councillors of the progression on 16 December 2011.
3	Community and Recreation Services	Q31/11 - Status of Community Park at Killarney Vale	9 November 2011 Cr McBride	The community Park known as Pioneer Park contains a small local playground. The park is on a 5 weekly standard mowing schedule, first mowed week ending 13/11/2011 and due again week ending 12/12/2011. Graffiti is removed upon request. Further investigation will be done on what controls are in place for the regulation of consumption of alcohol. The existing playground is 13 years old and has a current park rating of 3 (minor repairs required) which is attended to through routine maintenance. It is scheduled for replacement in 2019.
4	Community and Recreation Services	6.3 - Notice of Motion - White Ribbon in Wyong, say NO to Domestic Violence	9 November 2011 Cr Best / Cr Wynn	Staff attended White Ribbon breakfast. Councillors and senior male staff led a community campaign to pledge against domestic violence. Variable message board also installed on Gorokan Drive.
5	Environment and Planning Services	6.4 - Notice of Motion - Enforcement Policy for Control of Vehicles and Parking Around Schools	9 November 2011 Cr Symington / Cr Matthews	Report included in this business paper.
6	Environment and Planning Services	U28/11 - Controlling Cats in Suburbia -Cat Containment DCP	23 November 2011 Cr Wynn / Cr Matthews	This resolution was rescinded at the 14 December 2011 Ordinary meeting.
7	General Manager's Unit – Major Projects	7.2 - Notice of Motion - Proposed Major Transport Infrastructure Projects	10 August 2011 Cr Eaton / Cr Graham	Brief has been completed by consultant.

	Department	Question on Notice / Notice of Motion	Date Asked/ Councillor	Status
8	Community and Recreation Services	8.1 Notice of Motion - Tidy Towns	12 October 2011 Cr Wynn / Cr Vincent	Report included in this business paper.
9	Community and Recreation Services	8.3 - Notice of Motion - Sporting Ground Fees and Charges for Local Schools	14 September 2011 Cr Symington / Cr Matthews	Report included in this business paper.
10	Infrastructure Management	Q28/11 - Dangerous Driveway at Ruttleys Road	9 November 2011 Cr Best	Answer included in this business paper.