



Vincent Street
CESSNOCK 2325.

28 July 2008

To All Councillors

You are hereby notified that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chambers, on Wednesday, 6 August 2008, immediately following the conclusion of the City Planning Committee Meeting, for the purpose of transacting the undermentioned business.

**B R MORTOMORE
GENERAL MANAGER**

AGENDA:

PAGE NO.

(1) APOLOGIES.

(2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on
16 July 2008

(3) MAYORAL MINUTES.

(4) COMMITTEES' REPORTS.

Report of Infrastructure & Services Committee
Meeting held on 6 August 2008

Report of Corporate & Community Committee
Meeting held on 6 August 2008

Report of City Planning Committee Meeting held
on 6 August 2008

(5) OFFICERS' REPORTS

GENERAL MANAGER

37/2008

Information News Sheet

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(6) BUSINESS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN.

Motion 1	Adjoining Owner Notification – Rural Sheds
Motion 2	Coal Bed Methane Exploration Drilling
Recision Motion 1	Director Infrastructure & Services Report No. 61/2008
Recision Motion 2	Director City Planning Report No. 51/2008
Recision Motion 3	Director city Planning Report No. 52/2008

(7) COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

(8) QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE.

(9) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2008

OFFICERS' REPORT

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 37/2008

SUBJECT: INFORMATION NEWS SHEET

Included in the Enclosure document is the Information News Sheet relative to:

Staff Appointments
Outstanding Questions Without Notice

RECOMMENDATION that the information be noted.

To: **Ordinary Council Meeting**
6 August 2008

B R MORTOMORE
GENERAL MANAGER
24 July 2008

BUSINESS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

NOTICE OF MOTION

It is my intention to move at the meeting of 6 August 2008 the following:

Motion

That Councillors receive a report on the options for notifying adjoining owners of development applications to build a shed in a rural zone. The report should consider the pros and cons of the following options;

- the requirement for Rural 1C zones, or the new R5 zone in the Standard LEP, to have to notify residents for shed construction.
- the requirement for Rural 1(a), or the new RU1, RU2 and E3 zones to have to notify resident if the shed is within 40m of the boundary.

Rationale

Council currently does not require adjoining landowners to be notified when a Development Application is received to build a shed on rural zoned land. While this is practical common sense in most cases there have been several instances recently where sheds constructed without any consultation with neighbours have resulted in strong objections from residents. In these cases the large rural sheds have been constructed close to the property boundary and have significantly impacted on the views enjoyed by the neighbour. In one case the views impacted affect the accommodation business of a heritage listed guesthouse. In another case a newly built house had been positioned and designed to take advantage of the rural outlook only to have a large shed constructed in the middle of it.

Sgd: Clr James Ryan

Date: 29 July 2008

NOTICE OF MOTION

It is my intention to move at the meeting of 6 August 2008 the following:

Motion

That Council write to the NSW Premier requesting that his Government take urgent action to develop vigorous environmental impact assessment requirements for coal bed methane exploration and production activities, supported by whole of government. The assessments should include potential impacts on heritage and tourism values.

Secondly that Council inform all other Hunter Region Councils of its actions and ask that they also write to the Premier on this issue.

Rationale

The Wollombi Valley is currently under threat of Coal Seam Methane exploratory drilling. As outlined in the report from the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change dated May 2008, companies are currently not required under the *Petroleum (On Shore) Act 1991* to undertake comprehensive environmental assessments to determine what values are present in exploration or lease areas. Companies often need to construct access roads, pipelines and other works. Significant amounts of highly saline water (up to 60,000litres per day) can initially be produced from each well. The disposal and transport of this water may also have significant impacts.

Attached to this Motion is the Report from DECC for Councillors to consider. The relevant pages are 30 & 40.

Sgd: Clr James Ryan

Date: 29 July 2008

NOTICE OF RESCISSION MOTION

The undersigned lodge the following motion of rescission:

That the Council resolution of 16 July 2008 in relation to Director Infrastructure & Services Report No. 61/2008 be rescinded. That a further report be provided as to why Council is breaking its promise to the people of Pelaw Main and what land it refers to.

Sgd: Cr James Ryan

Sgd: Cr Ian Olsen

Sgd: Cr Rachel Main

Date: 16 July 2008

Received: 16/7/08; 9.55pm

NOTICE OF RESCISSION MOTION

The undersigned lodge the following motion of rescission:

That the Council resolution of 16 July 2008 in relation to Director City Planning Report No. 51/2008 be rescinded for the purpose of taking time to develop a Strategic vision for the vineyards.

Sgd: Cr James Ryan

Sgd: Cr Ian Olsen

Sgd: Cr Rachel Main

Date: 16 July 2008

Received: 16/07/08; 9.55pm

NOTICE OF RESCISSION MOTION

The undersigned lodge the following motion of rescission:

That the Council resolution of 16 July 2008 in relation to Director City Planning Report No. 52/2008 be rescinded for the purpose of taking time to develop a Strategic vision for the vineyards.

Sgd: Cr James Ryan

Sgd: Cr Ian Olsen

Sgd: Cr Rachel Main

Date: 16 July 2008

Received: 16/07/08; 9.55pm