



**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM
HELD ON 14 AUGUST 2024**

1. Opening

The Public Forum commenced at 5.35pm.

2. Presentations relating to listed Items on the Council Agenda

The following presenters were heard:

	Name	Item no	Item description	For/Against
1	Emma Brooks Maher	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
2	David Webster	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
3	Stephen Moore	9.11	Freebody Oval Renovation	For
4	Glenn Freebody	12.1	Notice of Motion - Naming of Chambers	For
5	Robert Wilson	N/A	Petition regarding the proposed Vikings Club in Jerrabomberra	N/A

The following written presentations were received:

	Name	Item no	Item description	For/Against
1	Lyndal Thorburn	9.6	Draft Cat Containment Policy	For
2	Janis Ann Knight	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
3	Sharon Rasker	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
4	Leigh Rayner	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For

5	David Webster	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
6	Lesley James	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For submission Against location
7	Maureen Elgood	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
8	Emma Brooks Maher	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
9	Judith Ann Turley	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
10	Barbara Rayner	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
11	Jillian and Richard Gregory	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For
12	Save Bungendore Park Inc	9.1	State Significant Development Application - New Bungendore High School - Proposed Council Submission	For

3. Petitions

Received from	Petition title	Action
Robert Wilson	Failure to Consult with Affected Residents (re proposed Vikings Club in Jerrabomberra)	In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, the petitioner will be informed within 21 days of any action decided upon by Councillors and staff as a result of the petition.

4. 'Questions on Notice' from the Public

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

	Received from	In relation to:
1-4	Jason Ralston	Short Term Rental Accommodations
5	Braidwood Community Association	Heritage Grants
6-7	Informal Requests	Financial Matters

5. Presentations by Invitation from the General Manager

There were no presentations.

6. Closure

As there were no further matters, the Public Forum closed at 5.58pm.



ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM HELD ON 14 August 2024

'Questions on Notice' from the Public

Responses to the following 'Questions on Notice' were provided and tabled at the meeting.

Questions submitted by: Jason Ralston

- 1. Does QPRC have a policy which dictates the approval process and expected conduct for Short Term Rental Accommodations (including AirBnB premises) within the QPRC Region?**

Short Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) is managed through the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021, which provides exemptions for the operation of short term accommodation.

As this is State legislation, it overrides any local policies. As such, QPRC does not have a policy.

- 2. How does QPRC assess and manage the impact of short-term rental accommodation on local properties and amenities (such as neighbouring properties and increased council managed road usage)?**

As STRAs are exempt under the above policy, QPRC does not have a role in assessing and managing the impact of STRAs.

- 3. NSW Fair Trading manages the Short-Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) register and requires local council to enforce the planning framework (see below screenshot). Could QPRC outline the actions it currently takes to ensure enforcement of the STRA planning framework and provide details of QPRC's complaint management process in relation to short-term rental accommodations?**

From www.planning.nsw.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/housing/short-term-rental-accommodation

Compliance

Planning framework

All local councils in NSW have access to the STRA Register and have a role in enforcing the planning framework. Your local council can be contacted if you have an inquiry or compliance concern relating to the:

- STRA planning rules, including reporting an unregistered STRA premises
- STRA Fire Safety Standard, such as missing smoke alarms, emergency evacuation information or fire extinguisher.

Ongoing neighbourhood noise complaints can also be referred to your local council or the police.

QPRC would respond to an enforcement matter in relation to STRAs if a complaint was made. QPRC does not have the resources to establish a formal enforcement program for STRAs. This is in accordance with the guidelines above.

4. All local councils in NSW have access to the STRA Register, including QPRC. Can QPRC advise how many short-term rental accommodations are currently registered in the QPRC region and provide a breakdown of the number of short-term rental accommodations in each suburb (if the data is available)?

QPRC has access to the register, there are a total of 167 STRA within the Planning Portal.

88 Hosted – with 26 de-registered, leaving 62 registered.

79 Non-Hosted, with 3 blocked, 23 de-registered, leaving 53 registered.

Council does not have information as to where these STRAs are located.

Question submitted by: Braidwood Community Association

An incomplete answer was provided to the following question in the Questions on Notice at the 24 July Ordinary Meeting of Council. A more complete answer has been provided below.

5. The BCA notes that the Draft Plan has \$26,000 allocated for Heritage Grants, up slightly from \$25,000 in 2023-24, which is savagely down from \$150,000 in 2021-22. The BCA understands that it is easier to make cuts to discretionary spending like community grants in a period of budgetary austerity but hopes Council will be able to increase the funding for these grants as soon as it is feasible (p6-7).

Feedback please.

Council's Heritage Grants are part of a program of activity which has been supported through the annual budget process. The following sets out the Council's budget commitments in relation to the Heritage Program:

	2024-25
Heritage Grants	\$12,500 (Council), \$12,500 (Heritage NSW)
Heritage Advisor	\$50,000
Review of Schedule 5 of the QPRLEP2022	\$200,000 over 3 years
Heritage Week and Awards	\$10,000

Questions received as a formal information request and provided as open access information to members of the public

6. Please provide copies of the following QPRC records.
Full general ledger chart of accounts, showing as many fields as possible including:
- (a) General ledger trial balances behind the annual statements 30/6/22 and 30/6/23 in excel, ledgers to full way xx.xxxx.xxxx.xxxxx, same for QBR3-2023-24 March review.
 - (b) Same all 3 years with field original estimates and 2024-25 estimates.
 - (c) Same all 3 years the projects actual and any estimates.
 - (d) Same all 3 years work orders.
 - (e) The report for GL to produce the statements in the Crawford template. The full GL number and the codes.

Not all the information is available, and the chart of accounts is not in the format requested. We have provided the best information Council has available. These are available in spreadsheets which have been made available on the [Council Meetings page](#) of our website alongside the public forum minutes for the 14 August 2024 meeting. The information provided is as follows:

- a) We have provided the trial balance – general ledger in a spreadsheet for the 3 years requested. The spreadsheet is called ‘Trial Balance – General Ledger’.

The 2023-24 trial balance has been provided as the most current available as at 30 June 2024, although the figures are draft. The format of the trial balance is only xxxxx – which is the best format available.

- b) The original estimates have not been provided in trial balance form because Council has not budgeted in that format. The best available budget information is through Council’s published Operational Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Quarterly Budget Reviews for each of the financial years requested. This is available on our [Budgets and Planning page on our website](#).

The CFO is currently working on improvements to Council’s budget reporting.

- c) The projects trial balance has been provided for all three years in a spreadsheet. Estimates are not included with the project actuals. The best available budget information for capital projects is through Council’s published Operational Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Quarterly Budget reviews. The CFO is working on improved budget reporting for projects.

This is included in the spreadsheet called ‘Capital Projects – 3 Years’.

- d) Council does not use work orders for financial transactions or budgets.
- e) The report for GL to produce the statements in the Crawford template has been provided in a spreadsheet called ‘Trial Balance as per Financial Statements Notes’.

Questions received as an informal information request and provided as open access information to members of the public

7. Please provide the following information:

(a) Total debt against the general fund as at 30 June for the last 4 years.

\$,000	30-Jun-21	30-Jun-22	30-Jun-23	30-Jun-24
General Fund Loans	73,531	105,072	141,665	138,246

(b) Breakup of the total loan.

The total breakup and interest rates are provided in every quarterly budget review published on Council’s website. As the June 2024 budget review will not be published until November, the information has been made available on the [Council Meetings page](#) of our website alongside the public forum minutes for the 14 August 2024 meeting, via the spreadsheet titled ‘Loans Information 2024’.

(c) Interest rate against each loan now.

See answer to (b) above

(d) Are you expecting any increase or reduction this financial year?

Council is budgeted to make repayments of \$10,697,000 in the current financial year, including General Fund repayments of \$9,508,000. Council has not budgeted for any new loans this financial year.