

MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABLE FUTURES COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 19 July 2017
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4:00pm

The following members were present:

Clr Amanda Findley
Clr Patricia White - Chairperson
Clr John Levett
Clr Kaye Gartner
Mr Oisin Sweeney
Mr Robert Hayward
Mr Peter McVay
Ms Lorraine Larri – via teleconference 4.15pm
Mr Russ Pigg - General Manager

Others present

Craig Milburn – Director Finance, Corporate and Community Services – left the meeting 5.15pm.
Carmel Krogh – Director Shoalhaven Water
Ben Stewart – Director Assets and Works
Warwick Papworth – Acting Director Planning Environment Development Services – left the meeting 5.19pm.
Martin Uptis – Asset Manager – left the meeting 5.19pm
Kelie Clarke – Environmental Services Manager
Elizabeth Dixon – Environmental Planning and Assessment Team Supervisor
Gordon Clark – Strategic Planning Section Manager

Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Clr Gash, Clr Wells and David Brawn.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Clr Gartner / Clr Findley)

That the Minutes of the Sustainable Futures Committee held on Thursday 06 April 2017 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS

SF17.4 Energy Management Internal Audit Report

**HPERM Ref:
D17/151803**

Note: Cllr Cheyne arrived 4.13pm.

Note: Ms Lorraine Larri joined the meeting via teleconference 4.15pm.

The Sustainable Futures Committee was advised that the low tariffs will come to an end in two years' time. There have been some improvements made across a number of areas, lighting changes for example and solar PV at our aquatic centres; however, there is no dedicated position to analyse the energy usage data and make recommendations for further improvements.

The audit report was tabled.

It outlined the need for in-house expertise to clearly investigate the internal systems to effectively track potential savings and usage. A dedicated position could create pilot projects (with payback periods identified) and present the data found to the Committee. There may also be sites that could be potentially available for community energy installation.

The Committee unanimously accepted the recommendation for a new resource.

It was suggested that there may be opportunities to create our own power in two years e.g. a long term contract of renewable energy from our own sources, to supply to the grid and reuse as required. Please note: this may be a procurement issue. There may also be the option to take up private equity assistance; all that may be required are our sites. These are the kinds of initiatives that a dedicated position would investigate and undertake a cost benefit analysis for.

The Committee discussed possible duties and responsibilities of the position.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Sustainable Futures Committee

1. Receive and note the contents of the report.
2. Provide any further directions to Council on energy management.

RESOLVED (By Consent)

That the Sustainable Futures Committee

1. Receive and note the contents of the report.
2. Provide any further directions to Council on energy management.
3. The General Manager seek to employ a dedicated resource and that funding come from the savings that the resource would produce

CARRIED

SF17.5 Streetlight LED Project

**HPERM Ref:
D17/164715**

Endeavour Energy replaces the street lights with LED lights. It is unclear what drives this process, and there is no incentive for them to replace the lights. It was suggested that Council advocate the State Government for Energy Suppliers to increase their own replacements.

Mercury vapour in street lights need to be removed completely by 2020. Community recycling centres are able to dispose of mercury vapour lighting. The changeover of the lights has not been a systematic process. It was advised that Shoalhaven City Council will be required to pay for the changeover.

It is a requirement that all new subdivisions install LED lighting; however not a requirement that it be smart LED lighting. Warwick Papworth will investigate with staff whether this needs to be a Policy requirement or if Council can already require new subdivisions install smart LED lighting and not have it commissioned to Endeavour.

Note: Craig Milburn left the meeting, the time being 5.15pm.

A suggestion from the Committee was perhaps it can be offered to residents to “adopt” a light in the street, to pay a contribution to upgrading the light and as incentive to offer an additional waste tip voucher.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That

1. The report on the business case for converting existing streetlights to LED lights be received for information
2. Council applies for grants for LED streetlight conversion

RESOLVED (By Consent)

That

1. The report on the business case for converting existing streetlights to LED lights be received for information
2. Council applies for grants for LED streetlight conversion
3. Council write to the State Government and ask, are there any contractual agreements to upgrade to LED? And if not, why not?

CARRIED

SF17.6 NSW Climate Change Fund - opportunities

**HPERM Ref:
D17/165882**

Note: Warwick Papworth and Martin Uptis left the meeting, the time being 5.19pm.

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has offered to brief the Sustainable Futures Committee to provide ideas of who we can link in with OEH programs and funding opportunities and how in relation to the five initiatives. It was decided that the presentation would not have to wait until a Committee meeting.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That Council invite staff from the Office of Environment and Heritage to present to the August meeting of the Sustainable Futures Committee on:

1. Opportunities for funding through the NSW Climate Change Fund and associated programs; and
2. Lessons learnt from other councils implementing resource efficiency projects.

RESOLVED (By Consent)

That Council invite staff from the Office of Environment and Heritage to present to the Sustainable Futures Committee, Councillors and Staff ASAP on:

1. Opportunities for funding through the NSW Climate Change Fund and associated programs;

and

2. Lessons learnt from other councils implementing resource efficiency projects.

CARRIED

SF17.7 Climate Council - Cities Power Partnership (CPP)

Membership has now closed and there will be another round in September. We have received a certificate of recognition and Councillor Gartner suggested having it framed and displayed by the front door.

As part of the Cities Power Partnership (CPP), it is a requirement that the Council chooses five (5) projects to work on with other Councils. There are four (4) categories to choose from:

1. Renewable energy
2. Energy efficiency
3. Transport
4. Working together and influence

Elizabeth Dixon provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Power Partnerships. The pledges must be determined within six months.

It was advised that an information email would be sent to all members including:

- The PowerPoint presentation – Cities Power Partnership
- A link to an Electronic Package with information on Asset Audits and ESD; Carbon and Energy Management; Cities Power Partnerships; Renewable Energy
- The link to Councils Sustainability Portal
- The standard report template for community members

Committee members would be requested to peruse all of the CPP Pledge options in each category and provide their top five preferences by Friday 28 July 2017. The most popular five initiatives will be reported to the Council along with supporting information from staff on the practicality and ability of the organisation to achieve the pledge.

Members were also asked to advise of:

- Favourable potential partners and reasons for selecting them?
- Interests and how members may be able to assist in particular initiatives

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.52pm.

Clr Patricia White
CHAIRPERSON