



Minutes

Date & Time:	6.30pm 26 November 2007
Location:	Orient Hotel, Springwood
Chairperson:	Councillor Daniel Myles
Meeting Purpose:	Blue Mountains Sports Council Meeting
Present:	Councillor Kevin Frappell, Councillor Terri Hamilton, Councillor Daniel Myles, David Brown, Walter Hitchell, Ian Monaghan, Paul Watson, Steven Poole, Estelle Godkin, John Tremble, John Beazley, Chris Moloney, Brett Sowerby, Adrian Birkbeck, Selina Young, Lisa Macqueen (Minutes)
Apologies:	Dave Gaddes, Phil Pinyon

1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes confirmed.

2. Items Listed for General Discussion

	Item	Put forward by
1	Status of Floodlighting	Chris Maloney
2	How Will Council Use the Winter Sports Fees?	John Beazley
3	Sports Council Alternate Delegates	Brett Sowerby
4	Inconsistency – Oval Closure Period	
5	Introduction to Sue Kondek's replacement.	Ian Monaghan
6	\$20,000 Sports Council Funds – Minor Capital Works	Adrian Birkbeck
7	23 March 2008 – Celebration of 40 Years of Netball in the Blue Mountains	Estelle Godkin

3. Warrimoo Oval/Peter Carroll Updates

	Item
1	Warrimoo Oval Clubhouse – John Beazley advised that the Clubhouse building is at lock up stage and on budget. The Club is waiting on a Sport and Recreation Grant to complete the kitchen and verandah fit out. It is anticipated that the clubhouse will officially open late February or early March 2008. (Suggested possible venue for a Sports Council Meeting once fully complete.)
2	Peter Carroll Field Clubhouse – Stephen Poole advised that the wet weather has delayed the roofing of the new amenities/clubhouse. However, a substantial portion of the structure is completed. There has been a problem with vandalism. A substantial amount of the internal and external walls had been graffitied. The police were informed but unfortunately nothing was done to investigate. There was discussion regarding oval security in general especially for those sites that were situated away from the highway. A suggestion was made that perhaps the Law and Order Committee could help in some way. It was acknowledged that the police resources are already stretched and perhaps the answer lies with CCTVs. Council unfortunately doesn't provide a CCTV service.

4. Sports Fees Operational Plan Adopted

Adrian Birkbeck advised that Council resolved at its Ordinary Meeting that the expenditure of the sports fees was to be determined by Council and the Sports Council's role was to make recommendations via a Council report. A handout entitled "Appendix E – Project Nomination & Selection Process" was distributed to members and Adrian explained that the process that was detailed on page 2 of this handout would now be the process that would be followed. It was agreed that not a great deal of money from sports fees would be collected by March 2008 – the estimate being \$15,000. Once projects from the sporting community are received this could be determined – regardless a flexible 5 year plan should be developed. A meeting will be held to prioritize projects, likely March 2008. Adrian explained the process of registration and collection of winter sports fees. Estelle Godkin requested that the procedures and timelines for registration and collection of sports fees be included in the Sports Ground User Handbook. Adrian agreed to this in the next revised version of the Sports Ground User Handbook and advised that he would also seek for this information to be put on the Sports Council Website.

5. Code of Conduct

Council staff recently attended Code of Conduct Training. Adrian Birkbeck was advised by the training staff that Council Committees should read the handbook and abide by its contents. Code of Conduct handbooks were issued to all attendees. The Handbook covers issues such as:

- Ethical and unethical conduct;
- Fairness and equity;
- Conflict of Interest.

6. September Maintenance Spending

Adrian Birkbeck distributed a summary of the September Maintenance Period Works/Spending. The summary included observations from Dan Long (Council's Assets Auditor) about the conditions of the various sporting facilities. Dan's observations included:

- This year more top dressing has been carried out. Summerhayes Park, Katoomba Falls Reserve, Pitt Park Upper, Blaxland Oval and Knapsack Park have been top dressed.
- Blackheath Oval is not on the list as there was only limited maintenance carried out on the oval due to an extended soccer season (requested by Blackheath Soccer Club). Maintenance work is scheduled at Blackheath Oval for January 2008. Council wants to install a new irrigation system and resurface Blackheath Oval in 2009/10 funds permitting.
- Please note that the amount of rain received on the ovals affects the success of the maintenance work. The current rain is working wonders on the ovals.
- Recreation staff had written to Schools advising they shouldn't be using ovals during the September maintenance period.
- There is maintenance planned for Warrimoo Oval in January 2008.

Adrian Birkbeck advised the Sports Council that since the purchase of the new mower 24 months ago mowing complaints have all but ceased. He also asked that members notify BMCC if there are any special needs for mowing. E.g. if there is a preferred day of the week for mowing to be carried out and it will be considered.

A request was made for the goal posts to be removed from Tom Hunter Park

by 15 December 2007 for Athletics Carnival.

Action: Council staff to investigate/action.

John Beasley enquired as to how much new turf has to be laid to qualify for a water exemption.

Action: Council staff to research and advise John.

Ian Monaghan observed that there seemed to be a conflict between mowing and turf laying especially during the cricket season at St John's Oval.

Estelle Godkin stated that no maintenance has been carried out at the Lapstone netball complex courts. Adrian Birkbeck extended Council's apologies explaining that there had been a misunderstanding about the resealing of the courts however he was under the understanding that maintenance had or was going to be done to rectify this situation.

Action: Dan Long will be asked to contact Estelle re: maintenance of the netball courts.

Warrimoo Oval – the mixed Touch Football competition was moved to Summerhayes Park to minimise impact on the condition of Warrimoo Oval.

Summerhayes Park – a significant amount of grading work has been carried out at the car park.

7. Current Renewals/Renewal Budget Requested 2008/12

SAM Plans – Adrian explained the process of producing Sustainable Asset Management Plans for Council Assets. This involves assessing an asset's condition, predicting when it will need replacing (life cycle) and providing replacement funding accordingly. The Recreation Team has sought funding from Council's Capital Works Program to implement a four year renewal plan.

Current Capital Works Budget - \$600,000

- New Tennis Courts – Summerhayes
- Glenbrook Park – Irrigation
- Winmalee Skate Park
- Lomatia Park Dual Purpose Court Floodlights
- Sports Council

Sports Council Minor Works 2007/2008 - \$20,000

A handout was distributed detailing projects seeking the Sports Council endorsement. Adrian Birkbeck proposed that the Blackheath Tennis Club retaining wall be removed from the list as it is estimated to cost a lot more than initially thought. A larger area needs to be made safe with railing or fencing as currently the grass bank slopes towards a drop straight onto a hard surface. He suggested that the list be amended to include a safety gate for Lawson Oval for the Blue Mountains BMX Club instead of the retaining wall at Blackheath Tennis Club. Funding would be sought from elsewhere to rectify the situation at Blackheath. This would leave \$1200 worth of funds which could potentially go towards the Blackheath retaining wall. Issues raised:

- Retaining wall is a health and safety issue.
- Does the Tennis Club have any money they could contribute? (Clr Hamilton)
- Adrian Birkbeck reluctant to ask Blackheath Tennis Club for money as the problem is not within their precinct.

- Cllr Hamilton is not in favour of the retaining wall being taken off the list in favour of the Lawson BMX Club and feels that Blackheath generally is being poorly treated.
- Adrian Birkbeck assured Cllr Hamilton that the retaining wall is a priority for the Recreation Team and it is trying to find other ways to fund the work. He also assured her that the Recreation Team is trying to get an irrigation system and resurfacing for Blackheath Oval in 2008/2009 or 2009/2010.
- After much discussion Cllr Hamilton and Cllr Myles agreed to raise the retaining wall issue as a Notice of Motion at the next Council meeting.

Note: A request for covers for the long jump pits at the Athletics field at Tom Hunter Park was not included in the minor works list. The long jump pits need to be accessible by schools and the general public. It would also set a precedent for all other Athletics Clubs in the mountains to request covers for their pits, Council then would be responsible for the maintenance and replacement. Penrith Council similarly do not cover their long jump pits.

8. Sports Ground Over Use Issues

Warrimoo Oval - Warrimoo Oval is experiencing constant heavy use. Adrian Birkbeck has been liaising with Rob Voura about what can be done to take the pressure off Warrimoo Oval. Rob has now booked Summerhayes Park on Wednesday nights for Touch Football. It is hoped that some of the touch football competition can take place at Summerhayes and potentially Knapsack Park once the floodlights have been upgraded to take the pressure off Warrimoo Oval. John Wycliffe School has been written to advising them that hockey is not permitted on the Warrimoo Oval and that the school is only permitted to use the lower oval due to the condition of the upper oval. John Wycliffe School has been very approachable and cooperative in this regard.

Rob Voura advised that the goal posts on Warrimoo Oval could be removed during summer to allow boundary movement of Touch Football games. Touch Football has line marked to avoid the oval bare patches.

Adrian Birkbeck mentioned that traffic at Warrimoo Oval continues to be a problem for residents. Council has a responsibility to give due consideration to residents when authorizing sport at ovals. The situation will continue to be monitored. Funding has been requested to formalize car parking opportunities at Warrimoo Oval.

Nepean Soccer Association – Ian Monaghan raised the issue of BMCC's relationship with the Nepean District Soccer Association (NDSA). Ian is concerned that the NDSA has bypassed local clubs and is negotiating directly with BMCC regarding the booking of Blue Mountains fields for competition games. There has been no consultation with clubs. Adrian Birkbeck stated BMCC has been approached by the NDSA in this regard however a request was made for this to be formally put in writing before any decision is made.

For information – NDSA is based in Penrith and covers an area from Wentworth Falls to Glossodia and Warragamba to St Marys. It is the third largest soccer association in NSW and has 14,000 members belonging to 37 clubs. The Knapsack Park resolution, which included a review in twelve months, for Roo Ball – has now been changed to Small Side football.

9. Australian Sports Commission Club Development

Adrian Birkbeck advised that he had invited the Australian Sports Commission Club to provide Business Development Planning assistance to sports clubs in the Blue Mountains. Hopefully this can be done in the first quarter of 2008. All Blue Mountains Clubs will be invited to attend.

10. General Discussion

Lapstone Oval Floodlights Lights – apologies from BMCC, this work is proving more complex than first thought. The design has had to have several changes. In the interim BMCC has received advice on putting an extension on the existing poles. It is anticipated that by the end of this week design information and cost will be presented to the Recreation Team.

Action: Adrian to advise Chris on design/costing for project.

Alternate Sports Council Delegates – The Sports Council must report its membership to BMCC, however there is currently no provision for stand ins in the terms and conditions of the Sports Council. There is the potential for a lot of sporting codes not being represented at the Sports Council meetings when members cannot attend. The Sports Council agreed that each code representative should have a second and that this second be nominated at the same time as the delegate is. They would also need to be endorsed by their code. The second would have to be as equally informed as the delegate and be in receipt of all communication for the Sports Council.

Action: Sports Council Terms Of Reference to be amended in 2008 to reflect this change.

Inconsistency in Oval Closure – During the maintenance period at Lomatia Park a man was walking his dog on the oval was asked to leave by Council staff. The RFS used the oval the next day for a display day with trucks accessing the oval area. It was felt that there was an inconsistency in the use of the oval during the maintenance period.

Action: Council staff will investigate and discuss with Dan Long/bookings officers and BMCS re: the approach to the public and one off bookings during the maintenance period.

Alternative Venues for Sports Council Meeting – Alternate venues for the Sports Council meeting were discussed as the current venue was found to be a bit noisy.

Action: Council staff to investigate alternative venues or arrange more privacy at current venue e.g. screens to block noise.

Seasons Greetings – Councillor Myles wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked them for their participation in the Sports Council throughout the year.

Meeting Closed 9pm

Next meeting Proposed End of February 2008 (to be confirmed).