AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Wednesday 17 August 2022

ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE



Administrator Minute

Reference: 101; 102; 103/6 Report Author: Administrator

Following a competitive process, it is advised that the General Manager has secured an experienced and highly qualified planner for the role of Director Communities and Place. The recruitment was facilitated by an independent facilitator.

As provided for under the NSW Office of Local Government Circular: 21-22 Updated guidance on the appointment and dismissal of senior staff (released 10 August 2021), the General Manager consulted me on 28 July 2022, of her intention to appoint a candidate into the role. Following this consultation, Adan Davis was formally offered the role and subsequently advised of his acceptance. Mr Davis has committed to arranging accommodation in the Shire during the working week.

This appointment will bring much needed permanent expertise to lead the planning area team. I table the Memo from the General Manager providing more details of the recruitment process and the appointments.

I wish to thank Mr Mc Fadden for his advice and assistance whilst in the acting Director Communities and Place.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that car parking requirements within the Bowral Town Centre are a significant impediment to new development, and to realising the ongoing revitalisation of the town centre. You only have to walk down Bong Bong Street to personally witness sites awaiting development – some for many years.

It is important for parking supply to continue to increase along with new development, however, there are a number of ways that this can be achieved. It is my view, that the current system in Bowral, which requires all parking for a new development to be provided on-site, is unnecessarily restrictive and acts as a major impediment to new development, and to realising Council's objectives of providing a vibrant, and sustainable town centre.

No doubt the Bowral Town Centre Masterplan will address the question of parking; however, in reality the finalisation of that plan is twelve months away.

In the circumstances, I have asked the General Manager to explore options and report to the September meeting mechanisms that would allow a new development to pay a monetary contribution for any short fall in parking and that could be used to provide consolidated parking in the centre, rather than strictly requiring all parking on site. This would provide greater flexibility for new development, without undermining parking supply in the town centre, and would hopefully support Council's objectives of supporting appropriate development that contributes to a vibrant town centre.

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In asking for advice, I make it very clear that any interim measure would require consultation with the community.

Viv May PSM

Administrator