

# AGENDA



## URALLA TOWNSHIP AND ENVIRONS COMMITTEE (UTEC)

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**Date:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Quarterly Meeting

**Time:** 06:00 PM

**Meeting called to order by:**

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### IN ATTENDANCE:

### APOLOGIES:

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS QUARTERLY MEETING (4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023)

Moved:

Seconded:

### MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Update requested regarding communication from USC with the State Rail Authority in respect to maintenance of rail lands.
2. Update requested on resolution 07.09/22 (\$17,000 for gardens).
3. Update requested on expending of funds re OLG on banners and signage.
4. Update requested on work order regarding Walking Tour signage.
5. Update requested on seeking expressions of interest from the community regarding Mt Mutton mural.
6. Update requested on 'gal poles' liaison with Transport for NSW.
7. Update requested on Porter Park – removal of rusty object.
8. Updated requested on dates of completion of projects – The Glen and Pioneer Park.
9. Updated report requested on Defect Liability Period issues for Rotary Park.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 10. Recommendations

The recommendations for the next UTEC Quarterly Meeting are:

- a. That Council accept the minutes from the UTEC General Meetings of 08 Jan 24 and 05 Feb 24 and UTEC Extraordinary Meeting of 19 Feb 2024

- b. That Council resolve to:  
*Review the southern approach/departure to Uralla for risk to wildlife (particularly koala's) and take appropriate actions to reduce the speed limit in this area to lower any risk to reasonably practicable (see attached supporting documentation).*

## NEXT MEETINGS

Next General Meeting: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - 4pm, Uralla Shire Council Chamber

Next Quarterly Meeting: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 - 6pm, Uralla Shire Council Chamber

Meeting Closed:

## ATTACHMENT



### JML Environmental Consultants

16 Illallangi Close, Armidale, NSW 2350. T: 0427 414 871 E: [jml.enviro@gmail.com](mailto:jml.enviro@gmail.com)

ABN: 98353212591

Attention: Uralla Township & Environs Committee.

12<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Hello Anne,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the concerns that you and the committee have about koala welfare when they use the corridor that connects paddocks on the northern side of the New England Highway to the Uralla Golf Course. I have addressed the Uralla Council in collaboration with Southern New England Landcare a few years ago regarding this matter. Our presentation involved the possibility of relocating the existing 50 kilometre/hour zone sign approximately 700m to the west so that it is adjacent to the end of the golf course boundary. I realise that this would need to be endorsed by Transport NSW and I really can't see that it would be too difficult. It needs to be done as soon as possible.

As a temporary measure, SNEL arranged for a digital traffic sign to warn drivers of koalas crossing and this was deployed during school holidays. I feel that it helped but I also offered the suggestion of permanent specially designed warning signs, with a koala silhouette outlined in highly reflective tape that could be seen at all times, especially after dark when most fatalities occur. I'm happy to revisit that recommendation with your committee. Every koala life at this point in time is crucial. The Gunnedah Basin has lost approximately 90-95% of its population over the last fifteen years due to a number of reasons; climate change, droughts and heatwaves have combined to kill and stress the population which has resulted in chlamydia being the major cause of koala decline. The cooler climate in the Tablelands is one of the hopes for koalas into the future so it is our responsibility to do all we can to reduce mortalities.

This, we felt, would make a massive difference to koala deaths at that site as I know through Denise Friedman and other sources, that many koalas have been killed by vehicle strike adjoining the Uralla Golf Course. I collected one such koala on the 9/11/2021 and took tissue samples from it for the Australian Museum for DNA analysis. A few months later on the 3/2/2022 I did the same thing when another koala had been totally flattened due to numerous vehicle movements. I have attached in a separate email of corroborating photographs of these vehicle strike victims. I must warn you that they are confronting.

If I can assist in any other way, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

John Lemon.

