

OPERATIONS MANAGER

COUNCIL REPORT

November 2024 Council Meeting



Item 1: Essential Services

Item 1.1 - Water Treatment Plant

Daily testing for pH, free chlorine and turbidity at all test points are compliant with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines for July 2024.

1.1 Water Treatment Plant – Daily Testing

- Daily testing of pH, free chlorine, and turbidity at all points in September 2024 met Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

September Test Results (Averages):

Parameter	October Average	Acceptable Range
pH (Post Reservoir)	7.3	6.5 to 8.5
Turbidity (NTU)	1.52 NTU	0 to 5 NTU
Free Chlorine	0. mg/L	0.5 to 5.0 mg/L

- **Water Connections:** 356 total (1 tap per main connection for new Plug in Properties). Hence total number remains unchanged
- **Water Volume (September 2024):** 30,438 kilolitres
Versus Last Month August being 23,845 kilolitres
- **Daily Water Usage (September 2024):** 981 kilolitres
Versus Last Month August being 794 kilolitres

Note a continued marked increase in water consumption from previous reporting periods as we head into the warmer months.

In-house microbiological test results of water for detection of Coliforms/E-Coli were all compliant with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines for the reporting periods.

1.2 New Bore update [SNAPSHOT]

- New Bore 1 Operational from 14th October 2024 - Located in the Water Treatment Plant area. Final Approval received from the water regulator on Friday 11th October 2024 to connect this Bore to HVASC's water supply system.
The New Bore 1 is currently producing 16L/sec into the council reticulated supply.
- New Bore 2 Drilling Contractor has now completed the install of the new Bore Headworks system meaning testing has now commenced. Early tests indicate a water supply of approximately 6L/sec, which will be an excellent support to the new bore 1 supply. Given its location just north of the existing water treatment plant it is a very convenient location to extend the water supply network of the existing system.

SPECIAL NOTE – Ongoing testing at the head of Bore for both new bores is continuing. New Bore 2 is located 400metres north of the Water Treatment Plant and works have recently been completed on this new bore 2. We will now start an extensive period of testing to ensure the water supply is constant and the quality tests meet all necessary legislative criteria for drinking water as per our Drinking Water Quality Management Plan.

This new bore #2 will add to the capacity to continue meet rising water demand requirements for Hopevale's immediate short to medium term future.

1.3 Incident Reporting / Water Leaks / Sewer Blocks

Incidents of main water leak since last reporting period increased significantly. During this period one major burst main lines and associated connections occurred resulted in major losses of water. Below is a summary of those water losses.

- **Water Main Leaks / 0 in Total:**

- **Sewer Blockages / 1 in Total:**
 - Location: Near School – Front toilet Block
 - Action: Blockage removed

Frequency since last reporting period has stabilised. These events are random in nature and frequency, with NO real option on fault finding until they're known.

Item 2: Animal Management

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Item 2.1 – Horse Management Plan

A further community meeting was held in this reporting period. A visit from Biosecurity QLD was very helpful on Oct 31 to help explain the process to all community members. The Relevant form to complete being the RBE form was handed out for discussion purposes. This RBE form lies with the individual and is tied back to the land holding upon which the horse will be kept. This is the first step in this process and forms were distributed for community review. Council is also providing copies for distribution and upon request at Council Administration Building.

All parties expecting to issue a request for ownership of a wandering horse needs to complete this form and return to Biosecurity QLD. No cost applies and the registration is valid for 3 years.

Item 2.2 – Animal Control Officer – Animal Census

The recent Animal Census for dogs and cats was carried out on 15th and 16th October 2024 with assistance from Tropical Health Services and members of Hopevale Council both in attendance. The last Census was undertaken in June 2022.

The Animal Census is to provide vital information to Council, such as, the number of animals and owner details, and the number of abandoned animals. It will also give data on what animals would require veterinary treatments.

Results of Census are as follows:

Animal Census Results

1. 300 Dogs (119 male, 115 Female, 66 unknown)
2. 3 Cats (2 female, 1 unknown)
3. 16 dogs confirmed as desexed by owners
4. Owners requested desexing of 21 dogs and 2 cats
5. Owners requested euthanasia of 5 dogs

Item 2.3 - Veterinary Community Visit – Proposed December 2024

The next Vet visit is scheduled for December 2024.

The information gathered from the Census results above will be helpful for any pending / future Vet visits.

The Vet will be providing veterinary services, including the following: desexing, vaccinations, medications for flea, tick and worming, mange, and microchipping.

The Vet will be utilising Council's Animal Control facilities and the impound areas.

Item 3: Open Spaces

Item 3.1 - Open Spaces Operations

The Open Spaces Unit is responsible for the beautification of the town and weekly refuse collection.

The Open Space Unit helps with tasks for the Council Animal Control Officer in removing animals from the township and roads.

The Open Spaces department has recently undergone a HR process to recruit two new candidates for Full time positions. Successful applicants were:

- Clinton Woibo
- Ryhan Flinders

In addition to this a 3 monthly labour hire arrangement is in place for Luke Woibo under EMG Labour Hire.

Other Recent additions:

Council has recently acquired new plant and equipment to be used in the parks and gardens / open spaces work zones including the following:

- Kubota Tractor – with attachments including slasher and articulating side boom slasher
- Kubota ride on mower * 2

This newly acquired equipment will complement the Parks and Gardens existing equipment to help maintain and beautify the town. Council has impressed the importance of the first impression when visitors travel into the township and this equipment will help promote that very important role.

The addition of human resources to the Parks and Gardens crew were both very well regarded by all interview panel members and I hope they become long standing member for Council. Both men had excellent credentials, had experienced working in and around parks and gardens environment previously and demonstrated excellent attitudes to the new role.

Bin Collections - It has been recently proposed to reduce the number of bin collection days of the main township from two to one. Circulars have been drafted for council to review. This is being considered because of the large area being covered and the size of the Parks workforce to carry out town and surrounding area beautification works.

Item 4: Cleaning Services

Item 4.1 – Cleaning Services Operations

The Cleaning Services Unit is responsible for providing cleaning services to Council properties and facilities. The Unit comprises of a supervisor and two staff and are employed Monday through to Thursday per week. Council is in the process of advertising for an additional cleaning role with interviews currently being held with HR.

Item 5: Workplace Health & Safety (WH&S)

Item 5.1 - Recruitment of WH&S Consultant

Council's new WH&S consultant namely Michael McDermott has been spending one week a month in Hopevale considering our policies, procedures and identifying key risk areas.

Michael will be extending his look into Council's Primary risk areas being the Building Department in his current visit. Initial points of investigation will be subcontractors working on the Building Department and identifying issues around licenses and insurances and machinery and truck tickets for all our operators. On top of these issues Michael is also looking at ensuring Safe Work Method Statements are up to date and working closely with the Council Building Team.

The WH&S consultant commenced with Council on Monday 22 July 2024 and is next is Community the week of 18/11/2024.

Item 6: Civil / Building & Construction

All relevant information on recently completed, approved and current projects under construction has been summarised with the finance report to ensure information is consistent for reporting purposes across this current reporting period. Please refer to the Finance Report for up-to-date information relating to Civil, Building and Construction works progress.

Recommendation

That Council:

- A. Note and accept this Report.