

(ITEM ENG2/16) WATER SUPPLY TO URBENVILLE SHOWGROUND AND BOWLING CLUB**REPORT BY:** Stephen Bell, Director Engineering Services**SUMMARY**

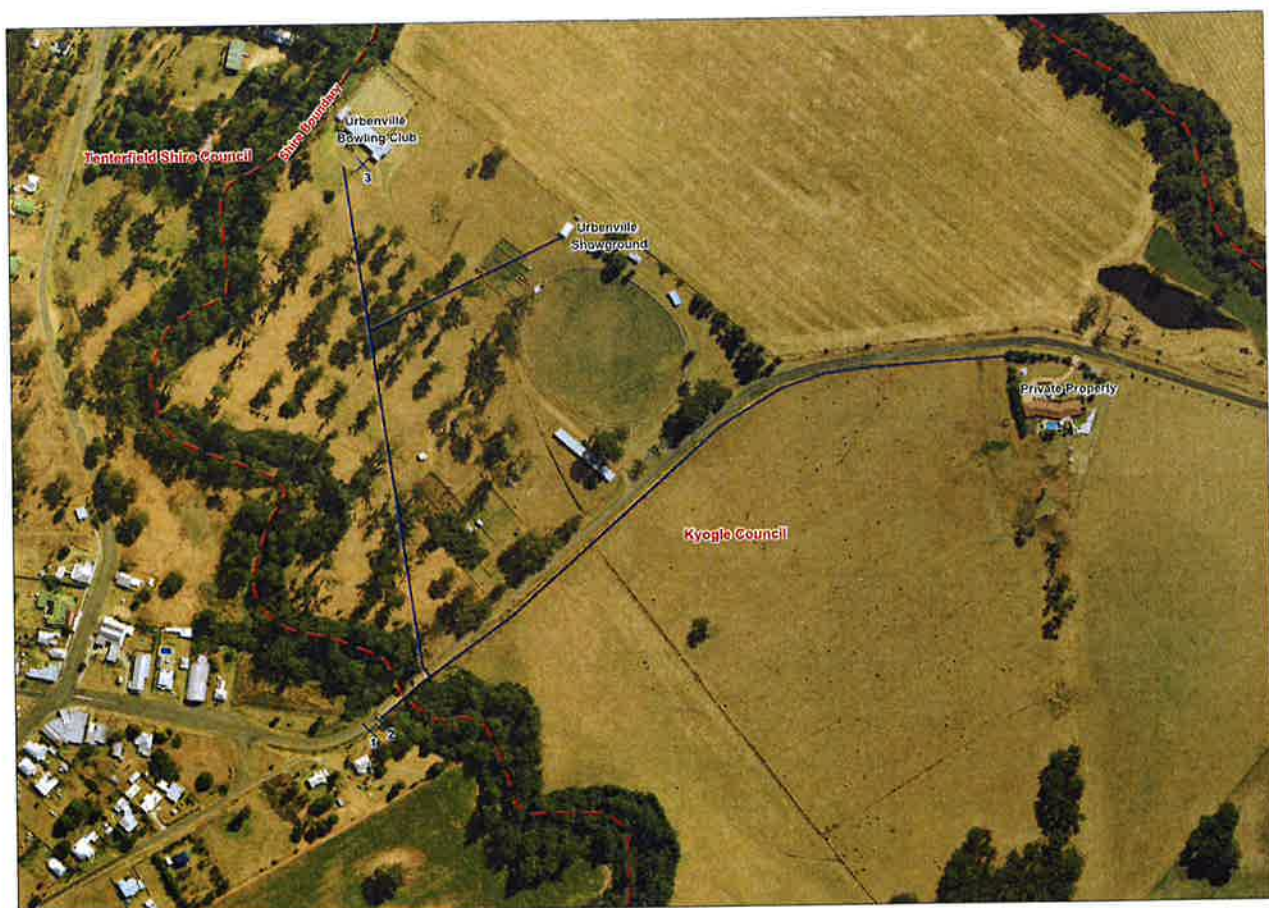
The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the ongoing supply of water to the Urbenville Reserve Trust (Showground), Urbenville Bowling Club and a private residential property, all of which are located within the jurisdiction of Kyogle Shire Council.

BACKGROUND

Council supplies water to Urbenville Showground with a downstream meter supply to Urbenville Bowling Club. The meter for the supply is located on the Urbenville side of Beaury Street Bridge, which is located within the jurisdiction of Tenterfield Shire Council. The downstream meter is located at Urbenville Bowling Club (within Kyogle Shire Council). There is also a metered supply point on the Urbenville side of the bridge servicing a private property located in the Kyogle Local Government Area.

There is a long history of issues associated with this water supply.

The below diagram shows the location of the three meters and approximate location of the water supply lines between the meters and the usage area. Tenterfield Shire Council is responsible for the supply of water to the master meter (meters 1 and 2 on the below diagram). It is the responsibility of the master meter holder for any breakages or leaks downstream of that meter.



Director of Engineering Services Report No. 2 Cont...

At its 23 September 2015 Ordinary Meeting, Council considered a report on the above matter. It was resolved at Item ENG28/15 that:

"Water Supply to Urbenville Showground and Bowling Club, be deferred to the next Ordinary Council meeting so that Mayors and staff can discuss more fully".

Unfortunately, it proved difficult to schedule a meeting between the Mayors and relevant staff of Kyogle Shire Council and Tenterfield Shire Council in 2015. Accordingly, a telephone conference was convened on 12 January 2016, to discuss the matter.

RELEVANCE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Key Priority Focus Area 2 – Our Infrastructure

CURRENT POSITION

In the past there have been numerous breakages in the line between the meter and Urbenville Bowling Club. For example, in 2011 Tenterfield Shire Council wrote off \$14,372.40 in water consumption fees (resolution 312/11) due to a break in the line within the showground area. Around this time, Tenterfield Shire Council supplied new poly pipe free of charge to the Reserve Trust, for installation by the Trust, for the purpose of replacing the section of broken pipe.

In 2015 there was another break (identified by Council's Urbenville Operator when he noticed high consumption at the reservoir) in the vicinity of the bridge.

In response, Council received a letter from the Trust (dated 10 June 2015) stating that they do not believe they should be responsible for water leaks outside of the showground boundary. The Trust also insist that the supply meter be relocated to the junction where the water branches to the showground amenities.

In a letter from the Trust dated 15 July 2015, Council has been advised the Trust has now installed the replacement pipe (supplied back in 2011/2012) and are now ready for Council to make the connection. In response to the Trust letter, a site inspection was carried out by Council's Engineering staff on 14 August 2015. This inspection revealed that there is still further work to be carried out by the Trust and/or Bowling Club before Council can make the connection to the Bowling Club meter.

Council has a formal water supply agreement with Kyogle Council for supply of water to Muli Muli and Woodenbong (referred to as Urbenville Muli Muli Woodenbong Water Supply or UMMWS).

On 12 January 2016, the Mayor, Peter Petty and Council's Director Engineering Services, Stephen Bell, held a teleconference with counterparts from Kyogle Shire Council. The following was discussed as a way to resolve the matter for the benefit of all stakeholders:

1. The objectives are:
 - a) To ensure that all three customers have water meters located within their respective property boundaries as required by the Local Government (General) Regulation; and
 - b) That the service pipelines up to each meter are of material and size acceptable to Tenterfield Shire Council (TSC); and

Director of Engineering Services Report No. 2 Cont...

- c) That after completion of the works the responsibility for water leaks is clearly delineated as being at the point of connection of each separate meter to avoid future disputes.
2. TSC continue to treat all three properties as TSC customers, with TSC continuing to be responsible for the service pipelines, once they are upgraded to the appropriate standard and the meters relocated to each property and for levying the annual connection and water consumption charges;
3. That Kyogle Shire Council (KSC) shares the costs of installation of the new meters and required upgrades to the service pipelines to achieve the objectives outlined above;
4. That the work be undertaken in line with the existing cost sharing arrangements for capital works identified in the Urbenville Muli Muli Woodenbong Water Supply Agreement (i.e. 50/50 funding split).

To meet the objectives, the following actions would be put in place:

1. The Water Managers from Tenterfield and Kyogle Councils and their field staff scope the project and agree to the extent of works and materials to rectify the current water supply problems;
2. A budget estimate be prepared for the works;
3. The Water Managers from Tenterfield and Kyogle agree to the budget estimate and confirm availability of their respective 50% share of the costs;
4. The Water Managers from Tenterfield and Kyogle Councils agree who will undertake the works;
5. Works be programmed and completed, with Tenterfield Shire Council staff to inspect and verify construction is to required construction standard.

GOVERNANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council should not be working on water infrastructure within another LGA unless by agreement with that LGA.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The Urbenville Showground and Urbenville Bowling Club are important facilities for the Urbenville Community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Urbenville Reserve Trust is currently charged an availability charge of \$87 per annum as a Voluntary and Charitable Organisation. The Urbenville Bowling Club is charged an availability charge of \$656.96 as well as trade waste and sewer availability.

Director of Engineering Services Report No. 2 Cont...

The private residence is not currently charged availability for this connection. All three properties are located entirely within the Kyogle Council Local Government Area, with Kyogle Council levying land rates for each property. Standard water connection and water consumption charges would be levied by Tenterfield Council.

Council has supplied the replacement pipe and written off previous consumption bills for Urbenville Reserve Trust.

The line from the meter (including across the bridge) to the new pipe is agricultural poly pipe and likely to have more leaks and failures in coming years. There will be considerable expense associated with replacing this section of pipe. However, if the actions as identified in this report are adopted, both TSC and KSC will share the costs.

POSSIBLE OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Continue with business as usual.

CONCLUSION

On 12 January 2016, the Mayor, Peter Petty and Council's Director Engineering Services, Stephen Bell, held a teleconference with counterparts from Kyogle Shire Council to resolve the issues associated with supply of water to the three properties located within Kyogle Shire Council. The teleconference was held in a positive spirit, with agreement that the matter needed to be resolved for the benefit of all stakeholders.

The proposal outlined in this report is the easiest and least expensive solution to address the problems experienced in the past, without the need to review the existing Water Supply Agreement. The proposal will also serve to reinforce the existing partnership approach to the water supply, which was the original intent of the Water Supply Agreement, and is certainly the case in the day to day operation and maintenance of the system.

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) That the Director Engineering Services' report entitled "*Water Supply to Urbenville Showground and Bowling Club*" be received and noted; and further
- (2) That in order to address the problems experienced in the past with the supply of water to three properties located within Kyogle Shire Council, the following actions be put in place:
 - a) All three customers have water meters located within their respective property boundaries as required by the Local Government (General) Regulation;
 - b) The service pipelines up to each meter be upgraded to a material and size acceptable to Tenterfield Shire Council;
 - c) After completion of the works, the responsibility for water leaks is clearly delineated as being at the point of connection of each separate meter to avoid future disputes;
 - d) Tenterfield Shire Council continue to treat all three properties as customers, with Tenterfield Shire Council continuing to be responsible for the service pipelines, once they are upgraded to the appropriate standard and the

Director of Engineering Services Report No. 2 Cont...

meters relocated to within each property and for levying the annual connection and water consumption charges;

- e) Kyogle Shire Council shares the costs of installation of the new meters and required upgrade to the service pipelines to achieve the objectives outlined above;
- f) That the work be undertaken in line with the existing cost sharing arrangements for capital works identified in the Urbenville Muli Muli Woodenbong Water Supply Agreement (i.e. 50/50 funding split).

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.