



## COUNCIL COLUMN – WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING – 8 SEPTEMBER 2021 LIVESTREAMED

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 8 September 2021**. Due to current **COVID-19 Public Health Orders** the meeting will be held via audio visual link commencing **at 5.30 pm**. This meeting will be livestreamed with an audio recording uploaded on to Council's website thereafter.

**Special application** will be required for any members of the public who wish to address Council in public forum commencing at 5.00 pm. Please complete the application form available on <https://www.narromine.nsw.gov.au/council/council-meetings> which **must be submitted to Council by 12 pm** on the day prior to the Council Meeting.

### MAGPIE SEASON IN THE NARROMINE REGION

Residents are reminded that it is peak magpie breeding season and magpies are actively protecting their nests over the next few months. Please be aware that magpies will swoop walkers, runners and bike riders. Magpies are very active at the Narromine Cemetery – please enter with caution.

Magpies are native species to the Narromine Region and are protected species throughout NSW. Large fines and jail terms apply to offenders who kill, harm or capture the birds. Problems experienced with swooping magpies may be reported to WIRES (13 000 WIRES or 1300 094737) or to the National Parks and Wildlife Service (02 9585 6333). Little can be done to prevent the swooping behaviour of Magpies. For more information visit <https://www.narromine.nsw.gov.au/residents/magpie-advice>

### STAY AT HOME ORDERS APPLY TO NARROMINE LGA

As of 7.00 pm Wednesday 11 August 2021 **Stay At Home** orders apply to people who live in or are temporarily staying in the **Narromine Shire Council** Local Government Area (LGA) or have been there on or after 5 August 2021 (the Narromine LGA is inclusive of Narromine, Trangie and Tomingley).

What the **Stay At Home** orders mean to all residents - People must only leave home for essential reasons:

- locally (within your local government area (LGA) or, if outside of your LGA, within 5km of your home from 12:01am Monday 16 August). You may travel beyond this area if the goods or services are not reasonably available locally
- only one person per household may leave home to shop each day, and browsing in shops is not allowed
- seeking medical care (including COVID-19 testing or getting vaccinated), for an emergency or a compassionate need
- exercising outdoors with one other person within 5km of home or LGA
- essential work or education, where you cannot work or study from home

When leaving home for essential reasons, anyone over 18 years of age must carry photo identification with evidence of their home address, such as a NSW Photo Card or Drivers Licence, and produce it to a police officer on request.

In addition:

- Face masks are compulsory in all indoor non-residential premises, public transport and **all outdoor settings**
- Visitors to households is not permitted unless you need care (including personal care)
- If you are 16 years and over, get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Remember, it is vital for anyone showing any symptoms, or those who are a close or casual contact of someone who has tested positive to COVID-19, to get tested immediately, stay home and follow the health advice.

Further information about restrictions can be found by visiting the following website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules/affected-regions>

For further health advice please visit the following website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

Remember in the case of an emergency **call Triple Zero (000)** immediately.

#### **SUPPORT DURING COVID – 19 INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESS**

The following information and support is available for individuals and businesses that are impacted as a result of current Public Health Orders and restrictions:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/.../getting-help...> or call 180 22 66

Support for businesses is available by calling 13 77 88 or go to the website:

<https://mybusiness.service.nsw.gov.au/concierge...> and arrange a call-back

There are many services available for individuals that are struggling mentally - support can be obtained from the following:

Lifeline – 13 11 14

BeyondBlue – 1800 51 23 48

Domestic Violence Line – 1800 65 64 63

1800 RESPECT – 1800 73 77 32

Suicide Callback Service – 1300 65 94 67

In an emergency call Triple Zero (000)

#### **NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

To align with the NSW Government's Stay at Home Orders and to protect Council staff a number of Council businesses and services are closed or operating under various restrictions until further notice.

Closures include Narromine Shire Council Chambers, Customer Service and Payments Centre, Narromine Aviation Museum and Visitor Information Centre, Narromine Library, Trangie Library and Narromine Sports and Fitness Centre. Residents are still able to contact Council on 6889 9999 between business hours 8.30 am to 5.00 pm. The following **Council essential services** such as water, sewer, roads, ranger (emergency work), waste and amenities cleaning continue to operate effectively.

Replacement green bin liners are available out the front of Council's Customer Service & Payments Centre office. Alternately please call 02 6889 9999 and Council's Customer Service staff can arrange for delivery by JR Richards.

Payment of accounts can be made over the telephone, internet, Australia Post agencies or by contacting your financial institution.

All other Council enquiries or requests for service can be made by phoning Council's on 02 6889 9999 or by email to [mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au).

### **COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS IN NARROMINE AND TRANGIE**

Council advises residents that **NSW Health** is conducting a drive-through COVID-19 testing clinic at Narromine Showground from 9.30 am through to 2.30 pm each day.

A COVID-19 testing clinic is also available Trangie MPS from 9.30 am – 3.00 pm everyday - please call 5881 9200 to book an appointment outside these hours for a test.

### **APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/DONATIONS CLOSING DATE EXTENDED**

Council is currently calling for any requests for donations, sponsorship and the waiver of Council fees and charges for 2021/2022 year from Narromine Shire Council community groups and organisations.

The eligibility criteria and application form is contained within **Donations, Sponsorships & Waiver of Fees & Charges Policy** which is found on Council's website [www.narromine.nsw.gov.au/community/grants](http://www.narromine.nsw.gov.au/community/grants).

**All applications for funding must be submitted on this form**, completed in full and include all relevant attachments as requested. Hard copy application forms can also be obtained from Council's Customer Service Building, 118 Dandaloo Street, Narromine or by phoning 02 6889 9999.

The **closing date** for all Donations/Sponsorship and Waiver of Fees is **5.00 pm Thursday 30 September 2021**. Applications for funding will be considered at a future Council meeting. Applications can either emailed to [mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au) or posted to the General Manager, Narromine Shire Council, PO Box 115, Narromine NSW 2821. For any queries, please contact Council's Customer Service and Payments Centre on 6889 9999.

### **NARROMINE, TRANGIE AND TOMINGLEY WATER METER READING**

Residents of Narromine, Trangie & Tomingley are advised that Council will be conducting water meter reading from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

Please ensure water meters are accessible and animals/pets are secured during this period. If your meter cannot be accessed, Council will estimate your water usage based on the previous usage. The Meter Readers will be following all COVID safe protocols in addition to standard safe work practices. Water Meter readers have weekly COVID tests and will be carrying official correspondence indicating they are essential workers.

## NSW PLANNING PORTAL IS NOW LIVE

**Council advises from 1 July 2021 all Development Applications within Narromine Shire Local Government Area must be lodged through the NSW Planning Portal** in line with State Government legislation. The new online portal enables people to access planning services and information from anywhere, at any time.

For information on how to register for a Portal Planning account and other resources visit <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/> or contact Service NSW on 1300 305 695 or contact Council's Customer Service Centre by phoning 6889 9999.

## NARROMINE WETLANDS CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES

Council advises all residents that the Narromine Wetlands is closed to **all vehicles** as construction of the first primary pond is underway. **Pedestrians** are able to access the Wetlands via the pedestrian gate near the public toilets. Pedestrians are advised to enter the Wetlands with caution, as internal walkway closures will occur. For your safety, please observe all signs in place.

## CLOSED ROADS AND ROAD SAFETY REMINDER

Narromine Shire Council wishes to advise that the following roads will remain **CLOSED to ALL VEHICLES** - Gainsborough Road (between Tomingley Road and McGrane Way) – access to Narromine Waste Depot is not affected, Merrinong Road (between Pineview Road and Ewenmar Road), McLeod's Lane, Pineview Road, Tyrie North Road, Belowrie Road and Momo Road.

All motorists are reminded not to drive through floodwaters and proceed with caution on all other roads. Council reminds all motorists to check Council's website, social media and LiveTraffic app or call 132 701 for information on local roads and traffic. If your life is at risk, call Triple Zero (000) immediately. For SES assistance phone 132 500.

Please note, major roads come under the jurisdiction of Roads and Maritime Services. Please visit [www.livetraffic.com](http://www.livetraffic.com) for live updates, traveller information and personalised alerts for NSW roads. Council reminds all motorists to **be alert on roads and at rail level crossings** as grain locomotives continue to use rail lines. Remember to plan ahead, slow down and allow plenty of time to get to your destination safely.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS POSTPONED UNTIL 4 DECEMBER 2021

Council advises that NSW Government has postponed the NSW Local Government Elections that were to be held on 4 September 2021 until **Saturday, 4 December 2021**, due to the escalating COVID-19 situation. The current Narromine Shire Councillors will continue to hold their civic offices until this time. Electoral rolls will now close on **25 October, 2021** with candidate nominations closing on **3 November, 2021**. For more information visit [www.elections.nsw.gov.au](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au)

## NSW ELECTORAL COMMISSION – ONLINE SEMINARS FOR CANDIDATES

NSW Electoral Commission has conducted a range of online Candidate seminars. This is your chance to understand some of what is required as a prospective candidate for the upcoming Local Government elections. Find out more here:

<https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/Elections/Local-government-elections/Local-Government-Elections-2021/Six-steps-to-being-a-candidate>

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**

Interested people who would like to work at the local government elections can apply through the Electoral Commission's 'expression of interest' website. Information about the roles available can be found on the website [www.elections.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Work-with-us/Work-at-an-election](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Work-with-us/Work-at-an-election)

Please note that registering an expression of interest is not an offer of employment, and should not be interpreted as a guarantee that employment will be offered. Applicants can work on the day (Saturday 4 December 2021) in a polling place, or for longer periods in a returning office or in one of the pre-poll voting centres.

## **NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL'S VANDALISM REWARDS SCHEME POLICY**

Council reminds residents of the VANDALISM REWARDS SCHEME POLICY that is in place to try and minimise the **costs of vandalism** where the community is encouraged to report vandalism.

**This policy offers a reward (maximum of \$5,000)** to persons providing information on vandalism to Council owned or managed property that results in legal action being taken - i.e. criminal proceeding resulting in a conviction, finding of guilt or offence; formal caution/warning issued by a NSW Police Force Officer; or a juvenile justice conference administered under the Young Offenders Act 1997. For further information about this policy please visit: [www.narromine.nsw.gov.au/council/policies](http://www.narromine.nsw.gov.au/council/policies)

Please call **NSW Crime Stoppers** to report vandalism or unusual behaviour on 1800 333 000 and in the case of an **Emergency please call 000**.

Jane Redden  
**General Manager**