

(b) Financial Implications

The licence fees will be paid by Parks & Horticulture.

(c) Legal Implications

The Licences require the Seal of Council be affixed.

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 400(4), requires that the Seal of Council must not be affixed to a document unless the document relates to the business of the council and the council has resolved (by resolution specifically referring to the document) that the seal be so affixed.

(d) Community Consultation

Nil

8.2 PROPOSED NEW TAMWORTH LAWN CEMETERY – FILE NO SF1125

DIRECTORATE: REGIONAL SERVICES

AUTHOR: Brian Sheedy, Manager Horticulture and Recreation

Reference: Item 8.6 to Ordinary Council 13 December 2011 – Minute No 422/11

RECOMMENDATION

That in relation to the report “Proposed New Tamworth Lawn Cemetery”, Council:

- (i) approve the allocation of vacant land (Lot 2 DP 633198) in Showground Road for a future lawn cemetery; and*
- (ii) request the Director Regional Services to provide a further report to Council following development of concept plans and a funding strategy.*

SUMMARY

Preliminary planning has been undertaken for a new Lawn Cemetery in Tamworth to ensure the smooth transition to a new site once available burial plots within the existing lawn cemetery in Showground Road are fully utilised. Current estimates indicate that a new lawn cemetery site will be required to commence operations in 2019. A 12.4 hectare site on Gunnedah Road (Oxley Highway) was investigated, however due to areas of extremely hard shale and limitations on access from the Oxley Highway, the site has been deemed unsuitable for a lawn cemetery. Preliminary investigations on the vacant Council owned land adjacent to the existing lawn cemetery in Showground Road indicate that this land would be suitable for the new site and would provide approximately 3000 burial plots for the next 20 years. The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to secure the land for a new lawn cemetery, develop concept plans and a funding strategy for further consideration.

COMMENTARY

The existing Tamworth Lawn Cemetery in Showground Road has 260 burial plots remaining. Based on current average annual usage of 90 plots for burials and reservations, a new lawn cemetery site will be required in 2019. Council staff have been investigating options for a new Tamworth Lawn Cemetery. A potential site for a new lawn cemetery was identified in the Glen Artney Planning Proposal, Local Environment Plan 2010, with proposed access from the Oxley Highway.

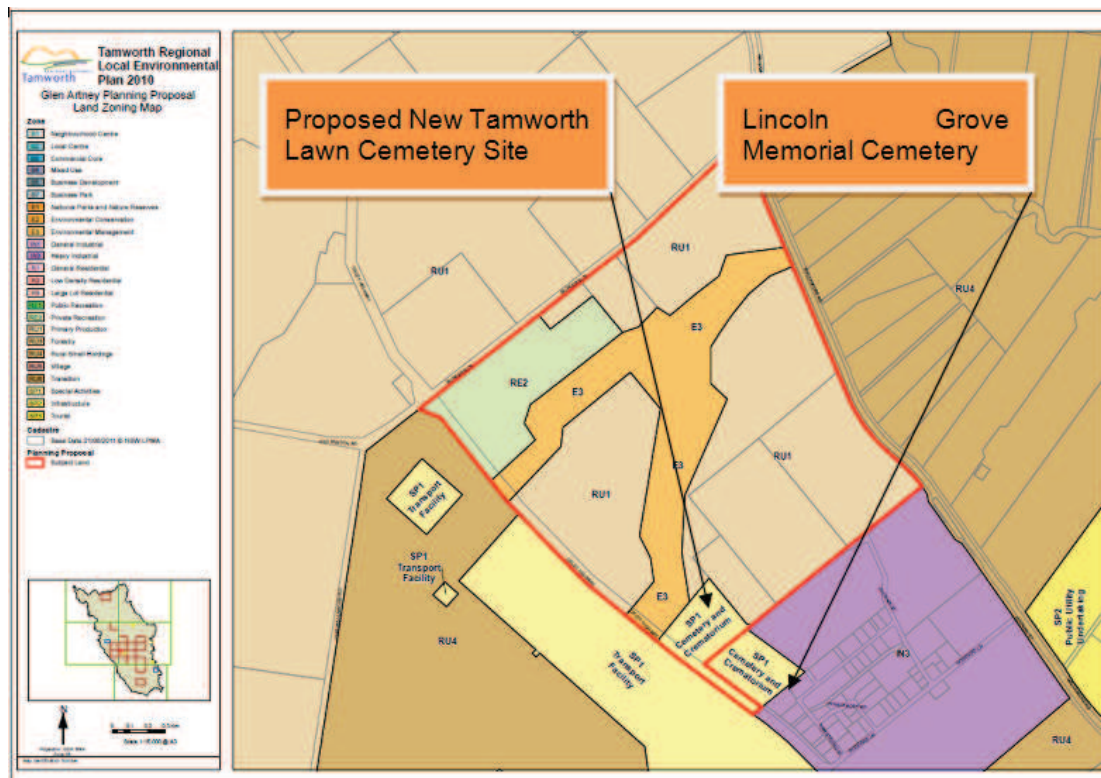


Figure 1.1 Plan of the former proposed new lawn cemetery site on the Oxley Highway which has now been deemed unsuitable due to access restrictions and hard shale.

Funding was approved by Council and investigations were undertaken to determine the suitability of the proposed site on the Oxley Highway. This site was ultimately found to be unsuitable due to the requirement to install turning lanes off the Oxley Highway and a geotechnical report that showed an extremely hard seam of shale which would limit the capacity for burial plots.

An alternate site adjacent to the existing lawn cemetery on the corner of Showground Road and Dampier Street was also investigated and is deemed more suitable. This land had been zoned for future industrial development, however with the emphasis now on the future development adjacent to the Glen Artney Industrial Area, this land could be utilised for an extension of the existing lawn cemetery. Preliminary investigations indicate that approximately 3000 burial plots could be planned on the 2.7 hectare site, which would cater for lawn burials for approximately 20 years.



Fig 1.2 Proposed site for New Tamworth Lawn Cemetery (Lot 2 DP 633198) on the corner of Showground Road and Dampier Street, adjacent to the existing lawn cemetery.

Should Council approve this site (Lot 2 DP 633198) to be secured for the new lawn cemetery, staff will progress the planning procedure which will include:

- Rezoning of the land (currently B5 – Business Development);
- Development of Concept Plans (access road, parking, lawn sections, memorial gardens for ashes, amenities, enhancement of existing drainage channels and landscaping); and
- Development of cost estimates and a funding strategy for staged development of the cemetery.

It is envisaged that the development of the site will be staged in order to reduce the initial capital cost and utilise income from future burials for the development of subsequent stages. It is also proposed that staff will use the existing cemetery office, amenities and workshop until funds become available to develop a new administration complex in a suitable location.

(a) Policy Implications

Nil

(b) Financial Implications

Should Council approve this proposal, a funding strategy will be developed to implement the construction of a new lawn cemetery facility.

(c) Legal Implications

Should Council approve this proposal, the land will require rezoning to comply with Local Environment Planning Controls.

(d) Community Consultation

The community was informed regarding the proposed new cemetery site on the Oxley Highway via various media releases. Similar media consultation will be undertaken regarding the proposed Showground Road site.

8.3 NEW SOUTH WALES PROPOSED CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME – FILE NO SF5812

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR: Daniel Coe, Manager Water and Waste

RECOMMENDATION

That in relation to the report “New South Wales Proposed Container Deposit Scheme”, Council:

- (i) receive and note the report; and*
- (ii) request the Director Water and Waste to provide further reports in relation to the proposed container deposit scheme, as information becomes available.*

SUMMARY

The New South Wales (NSW) State Government has announced the introduction of a 10 cent refund Container Deposit Scheme for eligible drink containers will be established in NSW by July 2017. This scheme will see the establishment of a state-wide network of container collection depots and reverse vending machines.

Whilst the Container Deposit Scheme will provide numerous benefits to Council and the community, there are potential challenges that will need to be considered prior to the July 2017 commencement date.

COMMENTARY

On 8 May 2016, the Premier of NSW, The Hon Mike Baird MP, and the Minister for the Environment, The Hon Mark Speakman MP, announced that NSW will introduce a 10 cent refund Container Deposit Scheme in NSW from July 2017. Beverage suppliers will be responsible for covering the cost of the refund and associated costs for running the scheme and must decide how much of these costs will be passed on to the consumer.

As the State’s largest ever litter-reduction initiative, NSW residents will be able to return their empty drink containers to a state-wide network of collection depots and reverse vending machines for a 10 cent refund. Littered drink containers currently account for 44% of the
