

Section:

MAYORAL MINUTE

date

Item: Clarence Public Health Rally Grafton Racecourse.

File: File No

REPORT SUMMARY

A brief summary is presented to Council concerning the proceedings of the public health rally called by Council and held at Grafton Racecourse on 10th December 2006.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council give its full support to the resolutions unanimously carried at the public rally and convey those resolutions urgently to the State Premier, Minister for Health, Leader of the Opposition and shadow Minister for Health as part of a council submission regarding the critical health issues facing the people of the Clarence valley.

BACKGROUND

At its 21st November 2006 meeting the council unanimously decided to call a public rally to address the Clarence health infrastructure crisis especially lack of health facilities and funding. The rally attracted in excess of one thousand Clarence valley residents. Mr Ron Bell acted as MC and eleven speakers (see program attached) addressed the rally.

ISSUES

The following motions were carried unanimously:-

1. That the NSW Minister for Health is called upon to adopt the existing draft master plan for Grafton Base hospital and the funding for the first and second stages of the plan be allocated prior to 28th February 2007.
2. That all sides of State politics are requested to commit to and fund improved health services in Maclean and allocate funding for the construction of the Yamba Health and Wellbeing Facility at Treelands Drive Yamba by 28th February 2007.

The submissions to the State politicians are being prepared and will be posted today given council's clear appreciation of the need to move with urgency.

I wish to place on record my appreciation for the support given by many people to this rally and in particular would like to express thanks to the Deputy Mayor Cr Adams, Cr Williamson, the General Manager and Mr Brian Lane for their great support.

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Clr Ian Tiley

MAYOR

11th December 2006