

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2017, COMMENCING
AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor R Pynsent (in the Chair) and Councillors Olsen, Doherty, Dunn, Fagg, Stapleford, Suvaal, Fitzgibbon, Gray, Dagg, Burke, Sander and Lyons.

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager
Director Planning and Environment
Director Corporate and Community Services
Director Works and Infrastructure
Economic Development Manager
Strategic Land Use Planning Manager
Health & Building Manager
Senior Media & Communication Officer
Corporate Governance Officer

MINUTES:

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke
 Seconded: Councillor Sander

290

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 4 October 2017, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY	

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST NO. DI18/2017

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

RECOMMENDATION

That Councillors now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

GMU16/2017 - Major Cooperative Destination Marketing Campaign Funding Opportunity - Councillor Fagg declared a Pecuniary Interest for the reason that he is involved in the tourism business and the marketing report relates to his primary source of income and the report may have a financial impact on his business. Councillor Fagg advised that he would leave the Chamber and take no part in discussion and voting.

GMU16/2017 - Major Cooperative Destination Marketing Campaign Funding Opportunity - Councillor Burke declared a Non Pecuniary Interest Less Than Significant Conflict for the reason that he is an Alliance Committee member. Councillor Burke advised that he would remain in the Chamber and participate in discussion and voting as the conflict has not influenced him in carrying out his public duty because as it will not have any financial impact on his role.

PETITIONS

Nil

ADDRESS BY INVITED SPEAKERS

Nil

MOTIONS OF URGENCY

MOTIONS OF URGENCY NO. MOU18/2017

SUBJECT: MOTIONS OF URGENCY

RECOMMENDATION

Nil

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT NO. GMU16/2017

**SUBJECT: MAJOR COOPERATIVE DESTINATION MARKETING CAMPAIGN
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

Councillor Burke declared a Non Pecuniary Interest Less Than Significant Conflict for the reason that he is an Alliance Committee member. Councillor Burke remained in the Chamber and participated in discussion and voting.

Councillor Fagg declared a Pecuniary Interest for the reason that he is involved in the tourism business and the marketing report relates to his primary source of income and the report may have a financial impact on his business. Councillor Fagg left the Chamber and took no part in discussion and voting.

Councillor Fagg left the meeting, the time being 6.33pm

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Dagg **Seconded:** Councillor Gray
291

RESOLVED

1. That Council commit \$5,000 towards the Destination NSW cost of preparing a major marketing campaign from the Tourism Related Project funding.
2. That Council commit \$50,000 towards the Major Cooperative Destination Marketing Campaign from the Tourism Related Project funding with industry contributions of at least \$200,000 and that campaign funding be matched dollar for dollar by Destination NSW.
3. That the General Manager raise with the Alliance to establish a working group under Section 13 of Memorandum of Understanding to administer and manage the call to action campaign.
4. That the General Manager present Council's preferred make up of a 5 member working group made up of:
 - a) Singleton Council representative
 - b) Cessnock City Council representative
 - c) Association representative
 - d) Alliance representatives x 2
5. That subject to the successful establishment of the above working group, consideration of chairmanship would be determined by the group.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Fagg returned to the meeting, the time being 6.42pm

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT NO. GMU17/2017

SUBJECT: FUNDING REQUESTS FROM BRANXTON-GRETA BUSINESS CHAMBER AND RICHMOND VALE PRESERVATION CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Sander **Seconded:** Councillor Fitzgibbon
292
RESOLVED

That the report be **DEFERRED** until the General Manager's report regarding funding that Council allocates to all groups, associations and stakeholders is presented to this Council.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT NO. GMU18/2017

SUBJECT: ANZAC DAY STREET BANNERS 2017

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Doherty

That Council note a grant funding application is being prepared for ANZAC Day street banners and the relevant information included in this report.

AMENDMENT **Moved:** Councillor Fitzgibbon **Seconded:** Councillor Dagg

That Council note a grant funding application is being prepared for ANZAC Day street banners and that if Council elects for the modification of existing poles or the installation of additional poles for the display of ANZAC Day street banners, then an appropriate funding source for associated costs is identified.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Fagg	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Fitzgibbon	Councillor Doherty
Councillor Gray	Councillor Dunn
Councillor Dagg	Councillor Stapleford
	Councillor Suvaal
	Councillor Burke
	Councillor Sander
	Councillor Lyons
	Councillor Pynsent
Total (4)	Total (9)

The Amendment was **PUT** and **LOST**.

The Motion was then **PUT** and **CARRIED**.

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Doherty

- 1. That Council note a grant funding application is being prepared for ANZAC Day street banners and the relevant information included in this report.**
- 2. That external funding opportunities be investigated to increase the number of poles within the 7 locations across the LGA.**

FOR

Councillor Doherty
Councillor Dunn
Councillor Fagg
Councillor Stapleford
Councillor Suvaal
Councillor Fitzgibbon
Councillor Gray
Councillor Dagg
Councillor Burke
Councillor Sander
Councillor Lyons
Councillor Pynsent
Total (12)

AGAINST

Councillor Olsen

Total (1)

CARRIED

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE55/2017

**SUBJECT: HERITAGE LISTING PROCESS FOR WOLLOMBI PUBLIC SCHOOL
(FORMER)**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lyons **Seconded:** Councillor Dunn
293
RESOLVED

That Council determine to make all endeavours to support the Wollombi School Community Educational Trust in any application they may pursue to seek State Heritage Listing for the historic Wollombi School.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE56/2017

SUBJECT: PLANNING AGREEMENT - ROSEHILL ESTATE, MILLFIELD

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Fitzgibbon
294

RESOLVED

1. That Council note the information provided on the Rosehill Estate Planning Agreement.
2. That Council amends the current Delivery Program 2017-21 to include the construction of traffic and drainage works identified in the Rosehill Estate Planning Agreement as part of the 2017-18 Regional Road Renewal Program.
3. That Council reallocates \$258,000 from the 2017-18 Local Road Renewal Program (being a portion of the allocated funds for the deferred Mt View Road, Cessnock project) to the Regional Road Renewal Program.
4. That Council considers the undertaking of the Recreation and Community Facilities projects identified in the Rosehill Estate Planning Agreement during the development of its 2018-19 Operational Plan and Budget.
5. That the General Manager provide a report and briefing to Council on the progress of all VPA's and S94 contributions to ensure that Council are meeting their obligations.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Dunn	Councillor Dagg
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (11)	Total (2)

CARRIED

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE57/2017

SUBJECT: ABANDONED VEHICLES

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Sander
295

RESOLVED

That Council receive the report and note the information.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC73/2017

SUBJECT: CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW PANEL 2017

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Dagg
296

RESOLVED

That Council endorse the Code of Conduct Regional Review Panel as adopted by Hunter Councils and refer any relevant Code of Conduct complaint to the Regional Review Panel, in lieu of establishing its own Independent Review Panel.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC74/2017

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2017

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Dagg
297

RESOLVED

That Council receive the report and note the information.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC75/2017

SUBJECT: RESOLUTIONS TRACKING REPORT

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Stapleford
298

RESOLVED

That Council receive the report and note the information.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	Councillor Doherty
Councillor Dunn	Councillor Fagg
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (11)	Total (2)

CARRIED

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI76/2017

SUBJECT: PETITION - RENAMING PART OF ACACIA STREET KURRI KURRI

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Sander
299

RESOLVED

That the name Acacia Street be retained for both sections of Acacia Street, Kurri Kurri.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI77/2017

SUBJECT: PATHWAY - WINE COUNTRY DRIVE, NULKABA BETWEEN THE CORNERS OF KERLEW STREET AND LOMAS LANE

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Dagg
300
RESOLVED

1. That Council notes the outcome of concept planning and cost estimates for the extension of a pathway on Wine Country Drive, from Kerlew Street to Lomas Lane, Nulkaba in two stages.
2. That Council notes the outcome of investigations into potential grant and other current funding opportunities.
3. That Council resolves to amend the Pathways Construction Program within the adopted Delivery Program 2017-21 to include the proposed shared pathways along Wine Country Drive subject to Council receiving grant funding and / or sufficient s94 funding to undertake the project.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (12)	Total (1)

CARRIED

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI78/2017

SUBJECT: RAISING THE FUNDING RATIO FOR WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Lyons
301

RESOLVED

That Council maintains its current level of service and funding for its road network, while continuing to seek all available funding sources through grant opportunities and that a Councillor Briefing be held in conjunction with a Briefing on funding opportunities to improve Council's overall sustainable position for the immediate and longer term future.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (12)	Total (1)

CARRIED

BUSINESS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN50/2017

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC WEEKEND

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lyons **Seconded:** Councillor Suvaal
302

RESOLVED

1. That the General Manager organise in February 2018, a strategic weekend for Councillors and Management to discuss the future of Cessnock LGA facilitated by a professional facilitator.
2. That Councillors be consulted on agenda items for the Strategic Weekend.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (12)	Total (1)

CARRIED

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN51/2017

SUBJECT: PUBLIC TOILETS

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Olsen **Seconded:** Councillor Suvaal
303

RESOLVED

That the General Manager bring a report back to Council within four months regarding the number of Council owned public toilets in the Local Government Area with a view to plan for future needs for the people of Cessnock and tourists especially in our main shopping precinct.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN52/2017

SUBJECT: DISABLED PARKING ADJACENT OT KURRI KURRI CENTRELINK

MOTION Moved: Councillor Gray **Seconded:** Councillor Burke
304

RESOLVED

That the General Manager investigates within 4 months the establishment of disabled parking spaces in Barton Street, adjacent to the Centrelink Building in the CBD of Kurri Kurri.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ115/2017

SUBJECT: BMX TRACK CESSNOCK LGA

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ116/2017

SUBJECT: ADVERTISING TENDERS/QUOTATIONS

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ117/2017

SUBJECT: HERITAGE PROTECTION FOR VINEYARDS AND VINES

The answer was noted.

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillor Ian Olsen

ASH STREET DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

Councillor Olsen has been contacted by residents in Ash Street concerning a subdivision, and asked if there was a Development Application could the Councillors be provided with a plan.

Councillor Ian Olsen

FRAME DRIVE, ABERMAIN

Councillor Olsen asked for some feedback on Frame Drive timeframe, expected completion date and how much work will be done and completed with money available.

Councillor Rod Doherty

ROAD WORKS - MULBRING

Councillor Doherty advised of a number of white painted marks around potholes in the Mulbring area and asked when the work will be undertaken.

Councillor Di Fitzgibbon

REMOVAL OF MAGNOLIA TREES

Councillor Fitzgibbon asked why were the Magnolia trees removed from the Gordon Williams Cemetery.

Councillor Di Fitzgibbon

GLENNIE STREET, ELLALONG

Councillor Fitzgibbon asked what the status was in regard to 10 Glennie Street.

Councillor Melanie Dagg

MAITLAND STREET, BRANXTON

Councillor Dagg asked for an update on status of the handover of Maitland Street Branxton from RMS to Council.

Councillor Darrin Gray

UPDATE ON RICHMOND VALE

Councillor Gray asked for the update on the Richmond Vale Railway Museum and progress on the rehabilitation, when the fencing will be completed and also Forge Masters and the Museum staff to be able to operate?

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised that the fencing is due to be complete this week, also the gluing of the loose asbestos to be completed with week and Council are current working with Forge Master and Society and are hoping to have them in and operational by the end of this week if not early next week.

Councillor Jay Suvaal

DA PROCESSING TIMES

Councillor Suvaal asked if Council have procedures in place to progress Development Applications if they are delayed for more than certain periods?

CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENCE NO. CO26/2017

SUBJECT: **POLICING RESOURCES - CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE HON. TROY GRANT MP, MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Sander
305
RESOLVED

That Council note the correspondence received.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor Burke

Relay for Life

Councillor Burke advised of his attendance the Relay for Life Events and stated that they have raised just over \$90,000 which supports patient transport for people that live in our Local Government Area that are suffering with Cancer. There were 450 people attended which was 37 teams and it is in its 10th year and they have raised close to 1M in that 10 years. The committee would like to pass on their thanks to Council for ongoing support and it does go hand in hand with the Beat Cancer at Work program that was facilitated at Council.

Councillor Dagg

Developers Consultation Forum

Councillor Dagg advised of her attendance at the Forum and stated that it was an overwhelmingly positive experience and really interesting hearing from the Mine Subsidence NSW representatives as it will have implications for our LGA further down the track. Interesting to hear what Council is doing in regard to streamlining processes and the customer experience is more positive.

Major Marketing Campaign

Councillor Dagg advised that he had just had it confirmed that the G12 Group will commit \$70,000 to that campaign.

Councillor Olsen

LGNSW Conference Withdraw

Councillor Olsen advised that he will be withdrawing from attending the Conference.

Mayor Pynsent

Reformed Hunter Joint Organisation (JO)

The Mayor advised of the 4 new Mayors to the JO those being Mid Coast, Maitland, Port Stephens and Dungog Councils. The JO firstly had a presentation from Monica Gibson who is the head of the Planning Department in Newcastle and spoke about the Metropolitan Plan, the importance of the Metropolitan Plan in linking to the City deal, which has been off the agenda for the last 6 months as the Mayors of both Port Stephens and Maitland were likely to change. She advised that the City Deal is back on the agenda which is going to be vital to the implantation of the Metropolitan Plan. The City Deal involves Port Stephens, Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland and Cessnock Councils and in 2 weeks a MOU between the Department of Planning and those Councils will be presented to have a unified front as we then move to in next year, after Metropolitan Plan is exhibited and adopted, we then go to the Federal Government for those high level infrastructure projects throughout those 5 council areas and the wider Hunter Valley.

The other presentation on the day was given by the Auditor General, Margaret Crawford, who brought 4 Auditors with her. This year has been the first year that the Audit Office has controlled the Audit of every Council in New South Wales. One of the issues is that our previous Auditor Forsythe, who is still our Auditor, but is now sub contracted by the Audit Office and what that has done, particularly to those smaller Councils is increase the cost of Audit. Council had their External Audit Committee where 2 representatives from the Audit Office and they have been part of that audit process as well as Forsythes. It is increasing the cost of audit, Council still pays for Forsythes but has the added burden of the Audit Office. The Councils were quite concerned about the increase in costs and I will summarise some of the issues there are the 10 councils in the area facing the same issues as our Council. One issue is the RFS. The assets of the RFS are now included as an asset to this Council and every other Council in NSW. One Council in particular has opted to not do that as Council has no control over the fire trucks or what resources are in our LGA in regard to RFS and the overall thought of all of the Councils is they do not like it. Council has spoken in this Chamber in regard to the inconsistencies between Councils in regards to the backlog so 3 councils are quite upset with the new Audit process in that they are now being instructed, without an option, to value the land underneath the roads, something that we have been doing and that different process has had a negative \$900,000 effect on their bottom line. So those Councils are not happy in that in the Audit it is referred to as an error just the same as our Audit papers will come to us with an error as we have been including the RFS assets. Now whether that is an error or just a change in the system that is something that all Councils in NSW have to face and one of the big issues for the Auditor General is the code that Local Government is controlled by in regards to finances. It is different to other Government Departments and the extra time and burden to staff is another issue to Councils. Hunter Councils are concerned about the extra burden being placed on them by the new process.

The Meeting Was Declared Closed at 8.23pm

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED at the meeting held on 1 November 2017

.....**CHAIRPERSON**

.....**GENERAL MANAGER**