



MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 30th May 2022

Michael Urquhart
GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 30TH MAY 2022 AT 11:00AM
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OPEN FORUM**Public Presentations:**

Nil

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 11:30AM

PRESENT

Mayor Jane Keir

Deputy Mayor Greg Rummery

Clr Alf Seaton

Clr Colin Hundy

Clr Daniel Walford

Clr Ian Woodcock

Clr Jasen Ramien

Clr Michael Cooke

Clr Sue Currey

Michael Urquhart (General Manager)

Tony Hughes (Chief Financial Officer)

Bob Stephen (Acting Director Engineering/Technical Services)

Belinda Petersons (Minute Secretary)

Note:

Councillor Ramien attended the meeting via Zoom video link.

Leave of Absence:

Nil

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor	Item No.	Report title/ Subject matter	Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary	Reason
Mayor Keir	10.3.1	Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – as at 30 April 2022	Pecuniary	Family Business interest
Clr Ramien	10.3.1	Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – as at 30 April 2022	Pecuniary	Family Business interest
Clr Ramien	11.1.5	Walgett Showground Road and Carpark	Pecuniary	Family Business interest

6/2022/1 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 26 April 2022**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held 26 April 2022, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on the meeting.

Moved: Clr Cooke
Seconded: Clr Walford
CARRIED

6/2022/2 Monthly Mayoral Report**Resolved:**

That the Mayoral report for May 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Currey
Seconded: Clr Rummery
CARRIED

The General Manager read out the Questions on Notice and responded to each one of them. It was agreed that:

1. Item (e) from Resolution 1/2017/15 needs to be re-instated to the Resolution Register, and
2. The General Manager is to report back to Council with clarification of the Commonwealth Government's '15% of eligible project activities', completed by the Australian Opal and Fossil Centre Inc., in order to have achieved Milestone 2.

6/2022/3 Council's Decision Action Report – April 2022**Resolved:**

That the Resolution Register as at April 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooke
Seconded: Clr Rummery
CARRIED

6/2022/4 Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government**Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Department circular 22-12 through to 22-15 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Walford
CARRIED

6/2022/5 Important Dates For Councillors – Upcoming Meetings & Events**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

Moved: Clr Seaton

Seconded: Clr Currey

CARRIED

6/2022/6 Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program**Resolved:**

That Council:

(a) Participate in the Community Events Program and submit a grant application for \$301,708.

(b) Engage a part-time community events co-ordinator for a fixed term nine (9) month contract, which is funded from the grant.

Moved: Clr Cooke

Seconded: Clr Seaton

CARRIED

Clr Rummery would like it noted that Council should look at building on already existing events rather than creating new events, wherever possible.

At 12:34pm Clr Ramien declared a pecuniary interest and his Zoom connection was put on pause.

6/2022/7 Walgett Showground Road and Carpark**Resolved:**

That Council:

(a) Approve expenditure for reconstruction of the Walgett Showground carpark of \$140,000 in 21/22.

(b) Make provision of \$126,000 in the 22/23 Operational Plan for sealing of the Showground road and carpark.

Moved: Clr Currey

Seconded: Clr Rummery

CARRIED

At 12:36pm the General Manager telephoned Clr Ramien and invited him to return to the meeting, whereupon Clr Ramien re-instated the Zoom meeting connection.

6/2022/8 Monthly Outstanding Rates Report as at 30 April 2022**Resolved:**

The 30 April 2022 outstanding rates report be received and noted.

Moved: Cllr Cooke
Seconded: Cllr Rummery
CARRIED

6/2022/9 Cash and Investment Report as at 30 April 2022**Resolved:**

That the Investment report be received and noted.

Moved: Cllr Woodcock
Seconded: Cllr Rummery
CARRIED

6/2022/10 Quarterly Budget Review Statement 2021/2022 as at 31 March 2022**Resolved:**

That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 31 March 2022 as tabled.

Moved: Cllr Cooke
Seconded: Cllr Rummery
CARRIED

Tony Hughes, Chief Financial Officer, noted that the 'Council's General Fund result for the financial year... is projected to be a cash deficit of \$512,428', as written in the report, should read 'is projected to be a cash deficit of \$701,711'.

Cllr Hundy raised concerns that Council and surrounding communities may be missing out on financial gains from non-registered Opal Field camps, which is also impacted by camp owners not being required to register on an annual basis.

Cllr Hundy is to prepare a resolution to bring forward to the June 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting for discussion.

6/2022/11 Operational Plan 22/23, Delivery Program 22/23 to 24/25, Long-Term Financial Plan 22/23 to 31/32, Workforce Plan 22/23 to 24/25 and Asset Management Plan

Resolved:

That the Draft Operational Plan for 2022/23, Delivery Program 22/23 to 24/25, Long-Term Financial Plan 22/23 to 31/32, Workforce Plan 22/23 to 24/25 and Asset Management Plan be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from the 31st May 2022 until 4:30pm on the 27th June 2022, inviting submissions from the public during this time.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Woodcock
CARRIED

At 12:53pm Mayor Keir and Clr Ramien declared a pecuniary interest. Mayor Keir left the Chamber and Clr Ramien's Zoom connection was put on pause.

Deputy Mayor Rummery then presided over the meeting.

6/2022/12 Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – April 2022

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for April 2022.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Currey
CARRIED

At 12:55pm Mayor Keir returned to the Chamber and the General Manager telephoned Clr Ramien and invited him to return to the meeting, whereupon Clr Ramien re-instated the Zoom meeting connection.

Mayor Keir resumed the chair.

6/2022/13 Monthly Progress Report as at 30 April 2022

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for April 2022

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Walford
CARRIED

6/2022/14 Flood Restoration Works – Update as at 30 April 2022**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the flood restoration works report as at 30 April 2022.

Moved: Clr Seaton

Seconded: Clr Hundy

CARRIED

6/2022/15 Development Approvals April 2022**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the Development Approvals Report for April 2022.

Moved: Clr Rummery

Seconded: Clr Currey

CARRIED

6/2022/16 Move into Closed Session**Time: 1:00pm**

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A 92) (a) (c) & (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

- (a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)
- (c) That information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting business (or proposed to conduct business)
- (d) That the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Cooke

CARRIED

6/2022/17 CONFIDENTIAL – Quotation for Construction Collarenebri Artesian Hot Spring**Resolved:**

That Council:

- (a) Accept the quotation of Lukas Building and Excavation at a price of \$1,127,400 (ex GST).
- (b) Enter into a contract with Lukas building and Excavation for construction of a 15m circular pool, associated amenities, park furniture, BBQ with shelter and seating, concrete paths and concourse, stormwater drainage, as per Quotation No. 264, at a price of \$1,127,400 (ex GST), and the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to execute the contract and other relevant documents on behalf of Council.
- (c) The Council Seal be affixed to the contract.
- (d) Allocate \$170,000 for the piping and pumping of water to and from the artesian hot spring pool in 2022/2023.
- (e) Allocate \$205,876 additional funding for the construction of the pool and amenities in 2022/2023.

Moved: Clr Ramien

Seconded: Clr Seaton

CARRIED

Item 6/2022/17 continued...

Clr Woodcock would like it noted that the final design should consider a small wading area/pool for little children.

Emergency Item considered by Mayor.

6/2022/18 Lightning Ridge Mega Park – Everyone Can Play**Resolved:**

That the General Manager enter into negotiations, with the owner/s, for the purchase of the old 'Diggers Rest' site at the corner of Opal and Morilla Streets, Lightning Ridge.

Moved: Clr Cooke
Seconded: Clr Hundy
CARRIED

6/2022/19 Return to open session**Time: 1:18pm****Resolved:**

That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Currey
Seconded: Clr Cooke
CARRIED

6/2022/20 Adoption of closed session reports**Resolved:**


That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports

Moved: Clr Cooke
Seconded: Clr Rummery
CARRIED


Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 1:20pm

To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.



 Mayor



 General Manager