



MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 24th September 2019

Greg Ingham
GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 10.50am
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OPEN FORUM**Public Presentations:**

Mr Patrick Fletcher, Mr David Land and Mr Col Hundy addressed Council in relation to the Australia Opal Centre funding proposal, in support of the project funding based on various economic benefits.

Mr Paul Duncan did not attend the meeting.

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 10.50am

PRESENT

Clr Manuel Martinez (Mayor)
 Clr Ian Woodcock (Deputy Mayor)
 Clr Bill Murray
 Clr Lawrence Walford
 Clr Robert Turnbull
 Clr Tanya Cameron
 Clr Kelly Smith
 Clr Jane Keir
 Clr Michael Taylor
 Greg Ingham (General Manager)
 Michael Urquhart (Chief Financial Officer)
 Jessica McDonald (Director Environmental Services)
 Richard Jane (Acting Director Engineering/Technical Services)
 Bronte Kerr (Minute Secretary)

ABSENT

Nil

Leave of Absence – Nil

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor	Item No.	Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary
Clr Martinez	11.3.1	Pecuniary
	11.3.2	
	11.3.4	
Clr Turnbull	11.3.1	Pecuniary
	11.3.2	
	11.3.4	
Clr Keir	11.3.1	Pecuniary
	11.3.4	
Clr Taylor	10.4.3	Pecuniary

9/2019/1 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 27 August 2019**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 27 August 2019, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on the meeting.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Cameron
CARRIED

9/2019/2 Minutes of Extra Ordinary Council Meeting – 10 September 2019**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council meeting held 10 September 2019, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on the meeting.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Taylor
CARRIED

9/2019/3 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 01/08/2019**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting held 1ST August 2019, having been circulated be received and noted and the recommendations contained therein are adopted as resolutions of Council.

Moved: Clr Smith
Seconded: Clr Turnbull
CARRIED

9/2019/4 Mayoral Report**Resolved:**

That the Council receive and note the verbal Mayoral Report.

Moved: Clr Smith
Seconded: Clr Woodcock
CARRIED

9/2019/5 Council's Decision Action Report**Resolved:**

That the Resolution Register as at September 2019 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

9/2019/6 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government**Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 19-18 to 19-20 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Taylor

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

9/2019/7 Important Dates for Councillors - Upcoming Meetings and Events**Resolved:**

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

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2019/8 General Manager Activities/Meetings for September 2019**Resolved:**

That that General Manager Activity report for September 2019 be received.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

9/2019/9 Ordinary Council Meetings – Time, Dates and Venues for 2020**Resolved:**

1. That Council endorse the below dates for the 2020 Ordinary Council Meetings commencing at 10:00am;
 - 11 February 2020
 - 24 March 2020
 - 28 April 2020
 - 26 May 2020
 - 23 June 2020
 - 28 July 2020

25 August 2020
 22 September 2020
 27 October 2020
 24 November 2020
 15 December 2020

2. Council investigate the resources required for the recording of meetings that held outside of the Walgett Shire Chambers and report to the October Council Meeting.

3. Council advertise in the local media and on Council's website the meeting schedule for 2020.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Woodcock
CARRIED

9/2019/10 Closedown of Administration over Festive Season 2019/2020

Resolved:

1. Council indoor operations close for the 2 weeks from Monday 23rd December 2019 to 3rd January 2020 and the General Manager make satisfactory arrangements for the maintenance of essential services and provision of emergency call out services.
2. The closedown be effectively notified to residents along with details of essential service and emergency call out arrangements.
3. Note a separate shutdown period will be put in place by the Director of Engineering for all Outdoor Staff in accordance with the award.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Smith
CARRIED

9/2019/11 Australian Opal Centre (AOC) Funding Request

Resolved:

1. Council commit \$50,000 per year for three years in line with the MOU between the Australian Opal Centre and Walgett Shire Council (Council Resolution of 25 August 2015) with the total of \$150,000 payable to the Australian Opal Centre upon the execution of the deed of agreement.
2. Council allocate the \$1,425,000 grant from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund allocation (\$5m) to the Australian Opal Centre Stage 1 project subject to the Australian Opal Centre meeting the following milestones:

Milestone 1. Upon execution of the deed of agreement between the Australian Opal Centre and Walgett Shire Council, Council will pay to the Australian Opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date November 19)

Milestone 2. Upon completion of the final design, Receipt of statutory approvals, Confirmation of final costs, Tenure/Access of land and building confirmed and 15% of eligible project activities are completed to Councils satisfaction, Council will pay to the Australian opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date August 20) **(Milestone 1 Commonwealth Funding Deed)**

Milestone 3. When 60% of the eligible project activities are completed to the satisfaction of Council, Council will pay to the Australian Opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date February 21) (**Milestone 2 Commonwealth Funding Deed**)

3. Council make available to the Australian Opal Centre \$425,000 from its Economic Development Reserve, payable to the Australian Opal Centre upon lodgement of the private certifiers "Certificate of Occupancy" for occupation of the new opal centre. (Estimated due date August 21)

Moved: Clr Turnbull
Seconded: Clr Woodcock
CARRIED

Clr Cameron raised concerns in relation to the written approval from the grant assessment committee of the Joint Organisation as the minutes of the meetings had not reflected such approval and suggested that written formal approval be sought by Council prior to allocating the Australian Opal Centre \$1,425,000 from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund. Clr Cameron also raised concern over the wording of the CFO's report; which indicated that Councillors had read the Business Case in relation to funding applications for the AOC, when this was not the case as said document was not made available to Councillors until 11 September 2019.

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2. Council allocate the \$1,425,000 grant from the Joint Organisation Tourism and Cultural Fund allocation (\$5m) to the Australian Opal Centre Stage 1 project pending formal written approval from the grant assessment committee of the Joint Organisation and subject to the Australian Opal Centre meeting the following milestones:

Milestone 1. Upon execution of the deed of agreement between the Australian Opal Centre and Walgett Shire Council, Council will pay to the Australian Opal Centre \$475,000. (Estimated due date November 19)

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Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Turnbull
CARRIED

DIVISION	For	Against	Absent
	Clr Manuel Martinez Clr Ian Woodcock Clr Lawrence Walford Clr Robert Turnbull Clr Kelly Smith Clr Michael Taylor	Clr Bill Murray Clr Jane Keir Clr Tanya Cameron	

9/2019/12 Monthly Outstanding Rates Report

Resolved:

The outstanding rates report be received and noted.

Moved: **Clr Woodcock**

Seconded: **Clr Walford**

CARRIED

Clr Smith left the meeting room at 12.02pm

9/2019/13 Cash and Investment Report as at 31st August 2019

Resolved:

That the Investment Report as at 31st August 2019 be received and noted.

Moved: **Clr Keir**

Seconded: **Clr Taylor**

CARRIED

Clr Smith returned to the meeting room at 12.04pm

9/2019/14 Rates & Charges Written Off During the Year 2018-2019

Resolved:

That the Council write-off \$200,740.61 as per Council's Abandonments Register as at 30th June 2019.

Moved: **Clr Turnbull**

Seconded: **Clr Taylor**

CARRIED

9/2019/15 Water & Sewer Services Equity as at 30th June 2019

Resolved:

That the Chief Financial Officers report be received and noted.

Moved: **Clr Keir**

Seconded: **Clr Smith**

CARRIED

9/2019/16 Swimming Pool Operations**Resolved:**

That the Chief Financial Officers report be received and noted in relation to the Swimming Pool Operations within the Shire.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2019/17 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only – From Chief Financial Officer**Resolved:**

That the Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only from the Chief Financial Officer in the following areas; Property Matters, Finance & Administration and Community Services be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Taylor

Seconded: Clr Cameron

CARRIED

Mayor Martinez, Clr Turnbull and Clr Keir declared a pecuniary interest and left the room at 12.26pm. Deputy Mayor Woodcock assumed the chair.

9/2019/18 Monthly Maintenance Grading Report from Director Technical / Engineering Services**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for September 2019.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2019/19 Monthly Progress Report – September 2019**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for September 2019.

Moved: Clr Smith

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

9/2019/20 Proposed Road Disposal at Gungalman North and Dahomey - Department Of Industry - Lands & Water

Resolved:

That Council note and refuse the proposed road disposal by making a submissions to Department of Industry - Lands & Water.

Moved: Clr Cameron

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2019/21 Matters Generally For Brief Mention or Information Only by Director of Engineering/Technical Services – September 2019

Resolved:

That the Matters Generally for Brief mention or Information only from the Director engineering/ Technical Services be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Cameron

CARRIED

Mayor Martinez, Clr Turnbull and Clr Keir returned to the meeting at 12.50pm and Mayor Martinez resumed the chair.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:51pm

The meeting resumed at 1.28pm

9/2019/22 Notification of Successful Grant Applications – Walgett Landfill and Lightning Ridge Landfill

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note the above information and endorse the actions of the Director of Environmental Services.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

9/2019/23 Additional Budget Items for In-Kind Contributions to NSW Environmental Trust Grants (DPIE)

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to approve two new budget lines; one for the contribution to the Lightning Ridge Landfill Environmental Improvements totalling \$6,880.00 and one for the contribution to the Walgett Waste Facility Environmental Improvements totalling \$48,288.00 from the Domestic Waste Management Fund (DWMF) for inclusion in the 2019/2020 budget.

Moved: Clr Smith

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

Clr Taylor declared a pecuniary interest and left the meeting room at 1:30pm

9/2019/24 Grants from the Walgett Shire Local Heritage Fund

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Disperse \$16077 from the Walgett Shire Council Local Heritage Fund 2019-2020 in the following manner:
 - (a) \$2000 to Lightning Ridge Opal and Fossil Centre for works at Bodel's Hut, Lightning Ridge;
 - (b) \$7000 to Darius Smith for the re-stumping of the shearing shed on 'Epping' at 552 Epping Road, Pilliga;
 - (c) \$1686 to the Lightning Ridge Historical Society for the installation of a termite protection system and its monitoring at 7 Morilla Street, Lightning Ridge;
 - (d) a total of \$5391.00 to Glen Bloink for the replacement of the roof and installation of guttering at the (former) Presbyterian Church and (former) Presbyterian Manse at 43 Herbert Street, Collarenebri.
2. Adopt the draft *Walgett Shire Council Interim Heritage Strategy 2019-2021*.

Moved: Clr Cameron

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Clr Taylor returned to the meeting room at 1:42pm

9/2019/25 Matters for Brief Mention of Information Only from Director Environmental Services

Resolved:

1. That Walgett Shire Council resolve to receive and note the report by the Director of Environmental Services on matter for brief mention, or information only.
2. Council agree that the Director of Environmental Services may commence negotiations with the property owner of 26 Nobby Road Lightning Ridge, Lot 5 DP 263351.

Moved: Clr Turnbull

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

9/2019/26 Move into Closed Session

Time: 1.35pm

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (2) (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 Walford
Seconded: Clr Turnbull
CARRIED

9/2019/27 Electric Line Interface Agreement between Walgett Shire Council and Walgett Solar Farm

Resolved:

That Council approves signing of the electric Line Agreement between Walgett Shire Council and Walgett Solar Farm.

Moved: Clr Turnbull
Seconded: Clr Taylor
CARRIED

9/2019/28 Return to Open Session

Resolved:

That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Taylor
Seconded: Clr Walford
CARRIED

9/2019/29 Adoption of closed session reports

Resolved:

That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports.

Moved: Clr Turnbull
Seconded: Clr Woodcock
CARRIED

Questions for Next Meeting

Clr Taylor

Q1: footpath adjacent to the community church in Lightning Ridge, needs a concrete entry to the gate way.

Q2: The scrap metal pick-up point in Lightning Ridge, need to check into this for aesthetics purposes.

Q3: Watering of new trees in Lightning Ridge not being undertaken, can this be checked?

Q4: Grids to the Grawin need attention ASAP?

Q5: The toilet block mid-way between Walgett and Brewarrina, what the progress so far?

Q6: Stanley toilet block needs cleaning and deodorising ASAP, can this be done?

Q7: Hand dryer in the toilet block in Lightning Ridge at the information centre, need one ASAP.

Q8: The action resolution document in the agenda needs to be in bigger print.

Clr Turnbull

Q1: Can the owner of the grids be contacted to fix the grids on the Burranbaa Road, one grid is on a bad angle.

Clr Smith

Q1: Can the approaches on the 'Rocky Ford' Bridge in Collarenebri be inspected as they are very rough?

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 2.05pm

To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

Deputy Mayor

General Manager