



**MINUTES FOR
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

25th August, 2015

ADOPTED:

Don Ramsland
GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 25 AUGUST, 2015 AT 10:00 AM

PRESENT

Clr Lane (Mayor)
Clr Woodcock
Clr Greenaway
Clr Walford
Clr Cooper
Clr Murray
Stephen Holland (Acting General Manager)
Matthew Goodwin (Director Planning & Regulatory Services)
Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)
Prafulla K.C (Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services)
Bronte Kerr (Minute Secretary)

Apologies

7/2015/1 Apologies

Resolved:

That the apology from Councillors Keir, Taylor and Martinez are accepted and a leave of absence granted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

Public Forum Presentations

The Mayor tabled a letter from LRTA in relation to the funding and operation of that Organisation. Mr Lee Edlund from the LRTA addressed Council , which included the following points:

- Mr Edlund advised that the Lightning Ridge Tourism Association (LRTA) had previously submitted a comprehensive proposal for a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as per Council request.
- It detailed the funds LRTA would require to operate the Visitors Information Centre (VIC) for the 2015/16 financial year.
- The LRTA board believes the current budget of \$130,000 for the 2015/16 financial year is not acceptable and that LRTA require \$173,000 pa to fund its operations.
- Mr Edlund advised that without the required funding of \$173,000, LRTA would happily hand over the VIC to Walgett Shire Council to continue its management and operation and LRTA would assist with the tourism aspect as an independent body.
- Mr Edlund advised that LRTA is currently being paid in arrears and should be paid in advance.
- Mr Edlund requested that the documents previously handed to the General Manager and Mayor in regards to flags in the streets of Lightning Ridge be signed and returned to LRTA so they can move forward with the project.
- Mr Edlund also offered the opportunity for Councillors to be a part of the board of the LRTA and continue the open line of communication with the Walgett Shire. It was noted that a Councillor would attend as an observer only and not as a member of the board.

Mr Gan Bruce discussed the following;

- Mr Gan Bruce wanted to clarify the cost of the levee bank construction in Walgett.
- He was advised by Council that the project is estimated to cost in the order of \$8 million, and Walgett Shire has received grant income of approximately \$4.6 million to date on a ratio of 6-1 grant funding.
- Mr Gan Bruce expressed his concern in regards to Walgett receiving funding for infrastructure and Lightning Ridge not having received similar funding.

Mr Col Hundy discussed the following;

- Mr Hundy advised that he has not received a reply from two letters he sent to Council in regards to the cleaning times at the bore baths.
- Mr Hundy questioned whether Council has a reply policy based on the timeframe to reply to letters received.
- He was advised that Council does not have a particular policy in place, however Council acknowledges correspondence and depending on the issue and what it requires in terms of investigation, a report to Council, or reference back to other Government departments will impact on the actual timeframe a reply is sent.
- Mr Hundy requested clarification on working times on the opal fields on Western Lands leases believed to be 7am to 8pm, as he is concerned with conflicting information from the Police and Council in relation to noise issues.
- Mr Hundy suggested Council discuss the above matter with residents.
- Mr Hundy advised that the mining department has sent a directive to clean up particular sights in Lightning Ridge and have them rehabilitated.
- He expressed his concerns as it may affect the mining heritage in Lightning Ridge and suggested that Council form a group to identify areas that could be classified as 'sites of significance'.

Ms Louise Chesworth commented as following;

- Ms Chesworth wanted to clarify the operations of the PCYC in Walgett and whether Walgett Shire Council is funding its operation.
- Council advised that it was an advocate for the establishment of the PCYC, but does not provide direct funding to the organisation.
- Ms Chesworth expressed her concerns with the lack of youth programs in Lightning Ridge.
- Ms Chesworth suggested Council employ a coordinator to run sporting programs in the afternoons for the children.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

Clr Greenaway declared a Pecuniary Interest – page 112 – Tenders for a provision of hired plant and minor works on a casual basis.

Confirmation of Minutes

7/2015/2 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting –28th July 2015

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 28th July 2015, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

7/2015/3 Payments to Organisation under Sec 356 Donations

Recommendation:

That payments be made quarterly in advance on receipt of an invoice from the organisations listed under the 356 donations budget.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2015/4

Recommendation:

That the General Manager provide a report on Tourism promotion for Walgett Shire and in particular the issues raised by the Lightning Ridge Tourism Association.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

Mayoral Minutes

7/2015/5 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Mayor

Resolved:

That the matters listed by the Mayor for brief mention or information only be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

Notice of which Notice has been given – Nil

Reports of Committees/Delegates – Nil

Reports from Officers

7/2015/6 Council's decision action report – August 2015

Recommendation:

That the Resolution Register for August 2015 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2015/7 Weekly's received from the Local Government NSW

Recommendation:

That the information contained in the weekly circulars numbers 28-32 from the Local Government NSW be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooper

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/8 Circulars received from the NSW Office of Local Government

Recommendation:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 15-28 /15-30 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2015/9 Monthly calendar August – October 2015

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period August 2015 – October 2015.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

7/2015/10 Local Government NSW – Annual Conference

Recommendation:

That attendance of the Mayor and General Manager at the LGNSW Annual Conference in Sydney between 11/13 October be confirmed and expenses paid.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

7/2015/11 Matters for brief mention or information only from General Manager

Recommendation:

- Narran Lakes Reserve response letter
- Essential Energy response letter
- Letter in regards to Changes to Water Management Chargers
- SES Controller Reappointment Letters
- Hudson Pear Progress
- Walgett Community College Update

That the following matters listed for brief mention or information only be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

7/2015/12 Cash on hand and investment report as at 31 July 2015

Recommendation:

That the cash on hand and investment report as at 31 July 2015 be received.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/13 Community Assistance Scheme Donations – Round 1 2015/2016 Applications

Recommendation:

That the following applicants be granted financial assistance under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the first round of 2015/2016;

Organisation	Project	Recommended Amount
Collarenebri Jockey Club	Assistance with mandatory ambulance fees and entertainment and catering costs for annual race meeting	\$1,000.00
Isolated Children's Parent's Association Inc. Walgett	Hold a family/community tennis day in the September 2015 school holidays. Provide BBQ lunch to participants	\$400.00
Lightning Ridge Junior Rugby League Football Club	Install additional lighting at Spider Brown Oval to improve security in carpark and illuminate equipment container and for reimbursement of annual line marking fee.	\$880.00

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

7/2015/14 NSW Local Government Awards- Youth Week 2015

Recommendation:

That the report for NSW Local Government Awards – Youth Week 2015 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2015/15 Adoption of Draft Walgett Shire Development Control Plan 2015

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Adopt the Walgett Shire Development Control Plan 2015.
2. Request that the General Manager:
 - (a) Give public notice of Walgett Shire Council's decision to adopt the Walgett Shire Development Control Plan 2015 via advertisements within the Walgett Spectator and Lightning Ridge News.
 - (b) Make the Walgett Shire Development Control Plan 2015 publicly available via Council's web site.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

DIVISION:

For: All

Against: Nil

Absent: Clr Keir, Taylor & Martinez

7/2015/16 New businesses - SP1 special activities zone

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the 2 letters dated 17 July 2015 have been received by Council from Bernice Mohr and Helen Theuma.
2. Write to NSW Department of Primary Industries, Western Lands Commission, Crown Lands Division and any applicable Reserve Trust for Crown Reserve 1024168 and ask whether they would support the amendment of the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013 to permit new commercial premises and tourist and visitor accommodation in the SP1 Special Activities zones.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

DIVISION:

For: All

Against: Nil

Absent: Clr Keir, Taylor & Martinez

7/2015/17 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director of Planning & Regulatory Services

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

Receive and note the report by the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services on matters for brief mention, or information only.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

Clr Walford left the meeting at 12.00pm
Clr Walford returned to the meeting at 12.03pm

7/2015/18 Monthly Rural Infrastructure and Support Service Progress report from Director Engineering Services

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for July 2015.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

7/2015/19 Monthly RMCC works Report from Director Engineering Services – July 2015

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the monthly RMCC works report for July 2015.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/20 Workshop Arrangements – Shire Maintenance Program

Recommendation:

That the General Manager make arrangements for a Council workshop on the methodology and criteria used in the formulation of the Shire road maintenance program.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Clr Woodcock left the meeting at 12.30pm

Clr Woodcock returned to the meeting at 12.32pm

7/2015/21 Monthly Maintenance Grading Report from Director Engineering Services

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for July 2015

Moved: Clr Cooper

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12.38pm for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1:08pm with all those previously present again present.

7/2015/22 Amendment of Roads to Recovery Project Report from Director Engineering Services

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and adopt the variation to the RTR Programme for 2015/2016
2. That Council approve the transfer of \$ 213,590.92 from the Burranbaa Road to the Shermans Way reconstruction and sealing project.
3. That Council agree not to carry out the gravelling work on the section of Burranbaa Road between 7km – 10km (measured from the intersection of Angledool Road and Burranbaa Road).

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/23 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Engineering Services

Recommendation:

That the matters listed by the Director of Engineering Services for brief mention or information be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2015/24 Matters generally for brief mention or information only – Urban Infrastructure Services

Recommendation:

That the matters listed for brief mention or information is received, noted and endorsed.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

7/2015/25 Donation to Lightning Ridge Arts and Crafts Council

Recommendation:

That Council provide a donation to the Lightning Ridge Art and Craft Council Inc of \$500.00 for the 2015 Spring Festival Acquisitive Art Prize.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

Questions for Next Meeting

Clr Walford

Question 1

Can Council inspect and repair the potholes located on George Sands Way to the Namoi Village boundary?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services to investigate and take appropriate action.

Clr Murray

Question 1

Can Council arrange for the flags to be flown on relevant Public Holidays such as the 25th of April and the 11th of November?

Response

The Director of Corporate Services to make arrangements.

Question 2

What is the progress on the water charge for the Walgett Sporting Club in relation to the 100mm water pipe connection?

Response:

Director Corporate Services advised Council is waiting on the Walgett Sporting Club to provide Council with a fire consultant report to determine the required meter size for firefighting.

Question 3

Can Council write to Kevin Humphries and Duncan Gay seeking their support for upgrading the Shire Road; SH103 to a Regional Road?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services to investigate and take appropriate action.

Question 4

Can Council investigate if the Walgett IGA's has a designated exit route onto Neilly Street?

Response

The Director of Planning and Regulatory Services to review development consent conditions.

Clr Cooper

Question 1

Can Council inspect and repair the potholes located on the Come By Chance Road – the first 5kms of the bitumen?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services to investigate and take appropriate action.

Clr Greenaway – Nil

Clr Woodcock

Question 1

Can Council arrange for the area near the Barwon River Bridge to be cleaned right out to the sale yards?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services to investigate and take appropriate action.

Clr Lane

Question 1

Clr Lane raised the concern of generator noise in Lightning Ridge.

Response

Director of Planning and Regulatory Services explained in depth the process Council follows when complaints are received in regards to generator noise.

7/2015/26 Move into Closed Session at 2.05pm

Resolved:

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (2) (c) & (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

- (a) 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)
- (b) 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 Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/27 Tenders for Provision of Hired Plant & Minor Works on Casual Basis – August 2015

Recommendation:

That the item be deferred pending the return to work of the General Manager and that a special meeting be held to further the recommendation if required.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

7/2015/28 Matters for Information Only – General Manager

Recommendation:

That the following matter listed for information only:
Letter dated 14th August 2015 from Jan Zamlicka be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/29 Return to Open Session at 3:00 pm

Resolved:

That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

7/2015/30 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

Resolved:

That Council adopt the following recommendation of the Closed Committee:

- 1) Tenders for provision of hired plant and minor works on casual basis
- 2) Matter for Information only – General Manager

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on 22 September 2015 in Carinda.

Mayor

General Manager