



**MINUTES FOR
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

10th February, 2015

ADOPTED:

Don Ramsland
GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 2015 AT 10:09 AM

PRESENT

Clr D Lane (Mayor)
Clr J Keir
Clr G Murray
Clr R Greenaway
Clr M Martinez (11:12am)
Don Ramsland (General Manager)
Stephen Holland (Director Corporate Services)
Matthew Goodwin (Director Planning & Regulatory Services)
Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)
Prafulla KC (Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services)
Victoria Renshaw (Minute Secretary)

Apologies

1/2015/1 Apologies – February 2015

Resolved:

1. That the apologies received from Clrs Cooper, Walford and Woodcock be accepted and a leave of absence granted.
2. That the apology received from Clr Martinez is accepted and a leave of absence granted until he arrives at the meeting.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Public Forum Presentations

Mr Col Hundy discussed the following;

- Mr Hundy advised that the Lightning Ridge and Opal Fields Association has been formed with meetings to be held during the second week of each month.
- Mr Hundy tabled copies of photographs taken of an indigenous totem pole artwork located outside Wee Waa Public School.
- Mr Hundy requested that 3 totem poles are commissioned to be placed in Lightning Ridge as part of the Main Street Beautification Project.
- Mr Hundy requested that Council cover the cost of the totem poles. Cost is yet to be determined.
- Mr Hundy advised that the totem poles would be difficult to steal as they need to be lifted by crane.
- Mr Hundy requested that the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled to take place in Carinda be held at Grawin/Glengarry instead.
- Mr Hundy also requested that instead of one meeting per year taking place at Collarenebri, Rowena and Burren Junction that just one meeting per year is held on a rotating basis, with the other two meetings to take place at Lightning Ridge.
- Mr Hundy advised that he plans to write to Kevin Humphries MP requesting a sealed road direct from Collarenebri to Lightning Ridge.
- Mr Hundy requested that an Economic Development Officer be appointed who is available to seek grants, funding and tourism projects.

- The Mayor advised Mr Hundy that Council does have an Economic Development Officer on staff.

Mr Chris Priestly discussed the following;

- Mr Priestly advised that he is concerned with tree clearing taking place at Brewon Station.
- Burning off is also taking place during fire bans.
- Mr Priestly also advised that they are spraying and clearing the nearby Stock Route.
- The Office of Environment and Heritage have been notified.
- Clr Greenaway suggested that Mr Priestly also advise Walgett’s Local Land Services representative.
- Mr Priestly advised that an online group “The Lower Macquarie Defenders” has formed campaigning for the area to be protected.
- Mr Priestly noted that the Walgett RSL Club does not provide courtesy transport services. Mr Priestly was advised to raise this query directly with the RSL Club.
- Mr Priestly enquired about the progress of his request for the Carinda to Coonamble Road(SR33) to be sealed.
- Mr Priestly enquired about the 4 to 5 kilometres of unsealed road on the Billybingbone Road (RR7516) between Carinda and Brewarrina. Does Council plan on sealing this?
- Mr Priestly also enquired about replacing of the wooden bridge on the Brewon Road. The Director of Engineering Services advised that Council have applied for funding for this bridge replacement.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

Clr Martinez declared a Pecuniary Interest in item - Plant Hire – Opportunity for Further Tenders as his family is currently operating contract plant.

Clr Keir declared a Pecuniary Interest in item - Plant Hire – Opportunity for Further Tenders as her family is currently operating contract plant.

Confirmation of Minutes

1/2015/2 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting –16 December 2014	
Resolved:	
	That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 December 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.
Moved:	Clr Keir
Seconded:	Clr Murray
	CARRIED

Mayoral Minutes

1/2015/3 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 Greenaway

CARRIED

Motions of Which Notice has been Given

1/2015/4 Motion – Bureau of Meteorology – Clr Murray

Resolved:

That Council write to the Chief Executive Officer of the Bureau of Meteorology Dr Rob Vertessy requesting that a representative from the Bureau visits the Walgett Shire to explain why weather forecasts for the Walgett Shire for the past two and a half years have been incorrect.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Reports of Committees/Delegates

1/2015/5 Minutes of Workplace Health & Safety Committee meeting – 29 January 2015

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Workplace Health and Safety Committee meeting held 29 January 2015, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/6 Minutes of Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 11 December 2014

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee meeting held 11 December 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

Reports from Officers

1/2015/7 Council's Decision Action Report – February 2015

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/8 Circulars Received from the Local Government NSW

Resolved:

That the information contained in the weekly circulars numbers 48 – 3 from the Local Government NSW be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Taylor

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

1/2015/9 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government – February 2015

Resolved:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 14-32 to 15-04 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

1/2015/10 Monthly Calendar – February 2015 to April 2015

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period February 2015 to April 2015.

Moved: Clr Taylor

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Clr Martinez arrived at the meeting at 11:12am.

1/2015/11 Local Government Reform – Fit for the Future Concept

Resolved:

That Council:

1. Continue to evaluate the concept of a Far West Initiative with fellow Western Division Councils and play an active role in the further development of the concept.
2. Maintain its involvement with the Outback Shires Alliance and press for an expanded role for the Alliance in the Local Government Reform process.
3. Evaluate the concept of a “rural council” and its suitability or otherwise for the future operation of Walgett Shire Council.
4. Prepare a draft “Fit For the Future” proposal for further review and consideration
5. Continue to liaise with both Bourke and Brewarrina Shire in respect of action they are taking with regards local government reform.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/12 Lightning Ridge Easter Carnival “Piglet Races” Sponsorship

Resolved:

1. That Council supply a suitable number of portable toilets for the Lightning Ridge Easter Carnival.
2. That Council do not provide sponsorship for the Piglet Races event.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/13 Western Division Group of Shires – Annual Conference – Motions for Consideration

Resolved:

That Council submit the following motions at the Annual Conference of the Western Division Group of Shires;

1. The use of fire trailers by the RFS in more isolated areas of the state to provide a more effective level of fire protection.
2. The combining the RFS, SES, VRA and Fire and Rescue NSW in the Western Division to reduce operating costs and in particular levies being placed on local government.
3. That the level of funds each western division council can identify through cost shifting by higher tiers of government be taken into account during the “Fit For the Future” process in determining a council’s future sustainability.
4. That Council support the establishment of a Western Freeway.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

1/2015/14 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only General Manager

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

1/2015/15 Cash On Hand and Investment Report as at 31 December 2014

Resolved:

That the cash on hand and investment report as at 31 December 2014 be received.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

1/2015/16 Cash On Hand and Investment Report as at 31 January 2015

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/17 Quarterly Outstanding Rates Report – December 2014

Resolved:

Council note the improved outstanding rates percentage and ongoing commitment to improve this key performance indicator.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/18 Stock Take Variance Financial Year 2015

Resolved:

1. That Council approve the write off of stock with a total value of \$291.16 to the stores ledger and control account and the adjustments to the Stores Ledger as per the schedule of stock items attached.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

1/2015/19 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2014

Resolved:

1. That Council note the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 31st December 2014 and adopt the adjustments/changes indicated within each fund respectively.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/20 Collarenebri Primitive Camping Ground

Resolved:

1. That Council request the General Manager to undertake a comprehensive cost benefit analysis on the provision of primitive camping facilities and the role that they play in the overall tourism strategy for the Shire and also investigate the cost of the electricity supply to the facility.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/21 Community Development Report October – December 2014

Resolved:

That the report for Community Development for October- December 2014 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

1/2015/22 Community Assistance Scheme Donations – Round 2 2014/2015 Applications

Resolved:

1. That the applicants be granted financial assistance for the recommended amount (as detailed below) subject to any conditions under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the second round of 2014/2015.

Organisation	Project	Recommended Amount
Lightning Ridge Community Radio Inc	Replace the CD player for broadcasting purposes. Denon DN 500C	\$200.00
Burren Junction Fishing Club	Intensive swimming program for children up to 5 years old. Teaching survival and swimming skills.	\$1,000.00
The Ridge Community Resource Centre Inc	Volunteers Picnic Day, supported by the LR VIC. Providing an updated Volunteers Induction Kit and information regarding volunteer programs in Lightning Ridge.	\$700.00
Carinda & District Race Club	Hire of men's and ladies toilets for the annual race day, so there are adequate toilet facilities for patrons.	\$1,800.00
Lightning Ridge Pony Club	Prize money for the bull riding competition to be held on Easter Friday 2015	\$1,000.00
Walgett Little Athletics Club	Purchase t-shirts for participation & competition in Zone Regional Championships and provide ongoing specialised coaching	\$0.00

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

1/2015/23 Walgett Freedom Rides 50th Anniversary

Resolved:

1. That Council record its recognition of and support for the event;
2. That the Mayor or his nominee provide an address to the forum to be held in the RSL Hall.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

**1/2015/24 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only from Director
Corporate Services – February 2015**

Resolved:

That the information be noted.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:36pm for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1:11pm with all those previously present again present.

1/2015/25 Grants from the Walgett Shire Local Heritage Fund

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Allocate \$8,467 from the Walgett Shire Council Local Heritage Fund 2014-2015 to maintenance works on the Burren Junction School of the Arts hall.
2. Request that the General Manager arrange discussions between Council's Heritage Advisor and any tradespeople involved to ensure that work is done to relevant standards.
3. If any other Local Heritage Fund project fails, then the remaining amount shall be allocated to the Burren Junction School of the Arts hall.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/26 Review of Development Determination 2014/02

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Defer this item to allow for Council staff to prepare a report regarding possible funding of 50% of the cost of updating security of premises to a pre-determined limit with the upgrade to occur within a specific time period.
2. Council staff also investigate the possibility of requesting business owners to repaint premises in heritage colours, with the support of a paint company.

Moved: Clr Taylor
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/27 Renaming of Regional Road 457 – Gundabloui Road

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note Council's GIS Coordinators report regarding the renaming of RR457 Gundabloui Road.
2. Maintain the name Gundabloui Road for RR457.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

1/2015/28 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director of Planning & Regulatory Services

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

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

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

1/2015/29 Monthly Rural Infrastructure and Support Service Progress Report from Director Engineering Services – December 2014

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly work progress report for December 2014.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

1/2015/30 Monthly RMCC works Report from Director Engineering Services – December 2014

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the monthly RMCC works report for December 2014.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

1/2015/31 Rural Fire Fighting North West Zone Service draft budget 2015/2016

Resolved:

That Council receive and approves the draft budget as listed for the Rural Fire Services fund 2015/2016, however provide for a 3% drop each year in respect of VASS charges, based on last year's figures with other charges to remain as is.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

1/2015/32 Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only – Director Engineering Services

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

1/2015/33 Walgett Levee Upgrade – Grant Offer from Office of Environment & Heritage

Resolved:

1. That Council endorse the General Manager's actions in accepting the grant funding of \$2,485,714.00 offered by the Office of Environment and Heritage.
2. Council shall contribute \$414,286 on a basis of a 6:1 ratio for the Walgett Levee Refurbishment Program in FY2014-15.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

1/2015/34 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only – Urban Infrastructure Services

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Questions for the Next Meeting

Clr Taylor

Question 1

Can Council encourage the removal of car bodies from the area behind the BP service station at Lightning Ridge?

Response

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services to investigate.

Question 2

There is a section of Old Nobby Road in Lightning Ridge that has washed away. Can this be investigated?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 3

Trees in Lightning Ridge are not being watered on a regular basis. Can a regular watering system be put in place?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 4

Sections of the intersection of Silica and Harlequin Streets in Lightning Ridge have worn away. Can this be investigated?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 5

When will the Main Street Beautification project start work in Lightning Ridge?

Response

The General Manager to provide an update.

Question 6

Can Council receive an update on the progress of Hudson Pear funding?

Response

The General Manager to provide an update.

Question 7

Can Council reassess the re-routing of heavy vehicles through Lightning Ridge? Can a by-pass be put in place?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 8

Can the bus parking area out the front of the Lightning Ridge School be resealed?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Clr Murray

Question 1

Can signage be erected in Walgett advising of the location of public toilets?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 2

Can the Environmental Health and Building Surveyor undertake an inspection of Walgett Gourmet Foods?

Response

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services to investigate.

Clr Martinez**Question 1**

Can the sign on the wall of the public toilet block at Collarenebri be removed?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 2

Can the drainage issue at Opal Street, Lightning Ridge be investigated?

Response

The Director Engineering Services advised that the drainage issue was resolved last week.

Question 3

There are kangaroos getting into the Lightning Ridge Aerodrome through the fence. Can this be investigated?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that pilots should be contacting Council's staff contact before landing at the aerodrome to allow a "roo run" to take place.

Question 4

When was the shade sail installed at Apex Park Walgett?

Response

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that the sail was installed 6 months ago.

Clr Greenaway**Question 1**

Can Council investigate damaged road signs across the Shire?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Clr Keir (on behalf of Clr Cooper)**Question 1**

How are water usage bills calculated when Council staff cannot access water metres?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that if staff have difficulty accessing metres they will contact the property owner to gain access.

Clr Keir**Question 1**

What is the progress of the weir access issue?

Response

The General Manager to provide an update.

Question 2

Nick Patel from the Walgett Post Office would like to thank Council's Director of Engineering Services for his assistance with new signage.

Response

Noted.

Clr Lane

Question 1

Keith Hackett from Fire and Rescue Lightning Ridge has been advised that there is funding available to update addressing for the opal fields. Is this correct?

Response

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that there is no funding currently available. Council's GIS Co-ordinator will provide a report to Council on the matter.

1/2015/35 Move into Closed Session at 2:45pm

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 Taylor

CARRIED

1/2015/36 Supply and Installation of CCTV

Resolved:

- 1. That Council accept the quotation submitted by DCL Locksmiths and Security for the installation and supply of Councils CCTV system in the sum of \$6,056.89.
- 2. That the Council proceed with an additional two cameras and DVR upgrade at an additional cost of \$3,703.56.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

1/2015/37 Sec 713 Sale of Land for Overdue Rates – 28 March 2015

Resolved:

That rate assessment 57505 for Lots 6 to 10 Section 22 DP 759036 in the name of George Temple, Augustus Fuller Temple & Horace Temple be withdrawn from sale of land for unpaid rates scheduled for Saturday 28 March 2015.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

1/2015/38 Write Off – Various Outstanding Debtor Accounts**Resolved:**

That the following debtor accounts as detailed be written off.

Account	Account name	90+ Days	90 Days	60 Days	30 Days	Current	Balance
415.5	NSW Police Force	\$98.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$98.92
876.5	Junction City Transport	\$28.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28.50
1155.5	Carinda Hotel	\$702.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$702.50
1623.7	Westpac Banking Corp	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
1146.14	Mr R Hall	\$267.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$267.40
1382.14	JOHN COLEMAN	\$101.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$101.73
1643.14	Mr K McDonnell	\$380.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$380.00
1662.14	Mr G Priestley	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
1822.14	Lightning Ridge Rural Fire Service	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
						Total	\$1,829.05

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Clrs Martinez and Keir declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and left the meeting at 2:52pm.

Plant Hire – Opportunity for further tender report from report from Director Engineering Services – February 2015

This item was deferred to the next meeting as Council did not have a quorum for this report.

Clrs Martinez and Keir returned to the meeting at 2:53pm.

1/2015/39 Return to Open Session at 2:53pm**Resolved:**

1. That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

1/2015/40 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

Resolved:

That Council adopt the following recommendation of the Closed Committee:

- 1) Supply and Installation of CCTV
- 2) Section 713 Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates
- 3) Write Off – Various Outstanding Debtors

Moved: Cllr Murray

Seconded: Cllr Taylor

CARRIED

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 3:05pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on 24 March 2015 at Lightning Ridge.

Mayor

General Manager