



**MINUTES FOR THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL
MEETING**

Tuesday 26th September 2023

Hugh Percy
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 9:00AM

The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.20am

PRESENT

Deputy Mayor Colin Hundy

Clr Alf Seaton

Clr Ian Woodcock

Clr Daniel Walford

Clr Michael Cooke

Clr Greg Rummery

Clr Sue Currey

Clr Jane Keir

Hugh Percy (Acting General Manager)

Kimley Talbert (Director Environmental Services)

Hafiz Malik (Director Corporate Services)

Tim McLoughlin (Acting Director Engineering/Technical Services)

Kazi Mahmud (Director Engineering/Technical Services)

Sharon Smith (Minute Secretary)

ABSENT

Clr Jasen Ramien Mayor

Megan Dixon (General Manager)

10/2023/1 Leave of Absence

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Walford that the leave of absence received from Mayor Jasen Ramien is accepted and a leave of absence granted.

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor	Item No.	Report title/ Subject matter	Pecuniary/Non - Pecuniary	Reason
Clr Jane Keir	9.3.1	Monthly Maintenance Grading Report as at 31 August 2023	Pecuniary	Family Business interest
Clr Jane Keir	9.3.3	Monthly Major Project Report as at 31 August 2023	Non-Pecuniary	Family Business interest

10/2023/2 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 30 August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Rummery that the Minutes of the meeting held 30 August 2023 as itemised in Minute Numbers 9/2023/1 to 9/2023/19 pages 2 to 6, be confirmed.

10/2023/3 Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting – 14 September 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Woodcock that the Minutes of the meeting held 30 August 2023 as itemised in Minute Numbers 10C/2023/1 to 10C/2023/1 pages 2 to 3, be confirmed.

10/2023/4 Mayoral Minute

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Rummery that council support the Mobile CT Scanning van to visit Lightning Ridge and that Mayor Ramien to follow up this matter.

10/2023/5 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Seaton and Councillor Cooke that the information contained in Departmental Circulars 23-10 through to 23-11 from the office of Local Government Division, Department of Premier and Cabinet, be received and noted.

10/2023/6 Important Dates for Councillors – Upcoming Meeting and Events

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Rummery and Councillor Cooke that Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

10/2023/6a Change of Meeting Date

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Keir and Councillor Rummery that the next Council meeting be moved to Thursday 26th October 2023 to allow the General Manager to attend.

10/2023/7 Sale of Unpaid Rates

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Seaton that the Council's determination on whether buyers of the Residential Western Lands Leases can build on vacant lots in the Opal Preserved Zone be the subject of further report to council.

10/2023/8 Lightning Ridge Easter Festival 2024

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Seaton and Councillor Cooke that Council defer this report until the October meeting

10/2023/9 Monthly Outstanding Rates as at 31 August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Hundy and Councillor Seaton that Council receive and note the Monthly Outstanding Rates report as of 31 August 2023.

10/2023/10 Cash and Investment as of 31 July 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Keir and Councillor Seaton that Council receive and note the Monthly Outstanding Cash and Investment Report as of 31 July 2023.

10/2023/11 Community Development & Services Information Report April – August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Keir and Councillor Seaton that Council receive and note the Community Development & Services Information Report April – August 2023.

At this stage Councillor Keir declared a Pecuniary Interest and left the meeting at 9.43am

10/2023/12 Monthly Maintenance Grading Report as of 31 August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Currey that Council receive and note the Monthly Maintenance Grading Report as of 31 August 2023

Councillor Keir returned to the meeting at 9.56am

10/2023/13 Service Progress Report as of 31 August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Rummery that Council receive and note the Service Progress Report as of 31 August 2023

10/2023/14 Monthly Major Projects Report as of 31 August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Woodcock and Councillor Cooke that Council receive and note the Monthly Major Projects Report as of 31 August 2023

10/2023/15 Report to Provide Update on Lightning Ridge Bore Line Project

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Woodcock and Councillor Cooke that Council:

1. canvassing to the minister for funding in relation to Lightning Ridge Bore No 1 pipeline replacement project as a first option, or
2. In the event that, a grant fund is not forthcoming, Council considers a low interest loan as second option, or
3. Council considers funding the project from water reserve as a third option.

10/2023/15 An Amendment was moved by Councillor Cooke and Councillor Seaton that the Council call for Tenders for the Lightning Ridge Bore Line Project.

The Amendment on being put to the vote was declared carried.

For

Councillor Cooke

Councillor Seaton

Councillor Rummery

Councillor Woodcock

Councillor Walford

Councillor Hundy (Deputy Mayor)

Against

Councillor Keir

Councillor Currey

10/2023/16 Development Approvals 31 August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Rummery and Councillor Cooke that Council receive and note the Development Approvals as of 31 August 2023

10/2023/17 NBN Upgrade – Lightning Ridge

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Seaton and Councillor Keir that Council receive and note the NBN Upgrade – Lightning Ridge

10/2023/18 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Woodcock and Councillor Walford that the Council report on Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only be received and noted.

10/2023/19 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only From Bob Harris

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Seaton and Councillor Cooke that the Council report of Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only from Bob Harris be received and noted.

10/2023/20 Update NSW Flood Management Guidelines

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Woodcock and Councillor Keir that the Council report - Update NSW Flood Management Guidelines be received and noted.

10/2023/21 Draft Fire Safety Policy – Walgett Shire Caravan Parks

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Woodcock and Councillor Keir that the Council report - Fire Safety Policy – Walgett Shire Caravan Parks be deferred to the October meeting pending further information from the insurance company.

Notice of Motion Cr Woodcock and Cr Ramien

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Woodcock and Councillor Seaton that a full report of all funds relating to the Lightning Ridge water fund be brought to the Council at its next meeting including historical information relating to the transfer of funds across the respective towns. During the discussion the Director of Corporate Services enquired about the level of reporting that is being requested referring to a previous report was done by the Luka Group. Councillor Woodcock also requested a full investigation in the water fund in Collarenebri.

Meeting adjourned 11.20am**10/2023/22 Move into Closed Session****Time:11.49am**

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Hundy that the council move into Closed Session and that the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A 2 (a) & (b) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with;

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer

10/2023/23 Return to Open Session**Time:12.23pm**

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Walford that the Council return to open session

Deputy Mayor Hundy read the resolutions passed in the closed session meeting.

10C/2023/1 Minutes of the Closed Meeting – 22nd August 2023

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Seaton and Councillor Cooke that the minutes of the Closed Council meeting held 22 August 2023 as itemised in minute numbers 9C/2023/1 to 9C/2023/4, pages 2 to 4 be confirmed.

10C/2023/2 Flamingo Street – Lightning Ridge

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Cooke and Councillor Walford that Council:

1. Confirm that in its view the matter of pouring the concrete slab at 6 Flamingo Street Lightning Ridge has been satisfactorily resolved and that the construction of the dwelling may proceed without any further obstruction of the Owner/Builder.
2. That it is in the Council's view that the Owner/Builder incurred the cost of obtaining the Structural Engineer's Certificate because of the circumstances set out in the Report and reimbursement of the amount of \$660 be authorized from Inspection Fees already paid to Council.

The motion was carried with the Councillors voting unanimously

10C/2023/3 Reconnecting Regional Grant Variation

Resolved on the motion of Councillor Keir and Councillor Rummery that Council endorse the action for the Reconnecting Regional Grant variation and that *Come-by-Chance Picnic Race Committee be granted the amount of \$2,000 for the Come-by-Chance Race Day under the 365 Community Assistance Fund.*

With no further business the meeting was closed by Deputy Mayor Hundy at 12.23 pm

To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

 Mayor

 General Manager