



MINUTES
COUNCIL
ORDINARY
MEETING

Tuesday 27th February 2024

Megan Dixon
GENERAL MANAGER

The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.20am

PRESENT

Deputy Mayor Colin Hundy
Councillor Daniel Walford
Councillor Sue Currey
Councillor Greg Rummery
Councillor Michael Cooke
Councillor Ian Woodcock
Councillor Alf Seaton

Megan Dixon (General Manager)
Kimley Talbert (Director Environmental Services)
Hafiz Malik (Director Corporate Services)
Kazi Mahmud (Director Engineering/Technical Services)
Sherisse Fensom (Minute Secretary)

ABSENT

Mayor Jasen Ramien
Councillor Jane Keir

The Deputy Mayor acknowledged the traditional owners of the lands within the Walgett Shire and acknowledged the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within this Shire.

03/2024/01 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED on MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor COOKE; That Council grant the leave of absences for Mayor RAMIEN and Councillor KEIR for Tuesday 27th February 2024 Ordinary Business Meeting.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were three declarations

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary</i>	<i>Reason</i>
Michael Cooke	12.3.6	Non-pecuniary	Director of LROR
Colin Hundy	12.3.6	Non-pecuniary	Board Member LROR
Greg Rummery	12.4.9	Non-pecuniary	Is impacted by rural subdivision.

6. Public Forum

The Council reports having met with the following persons during Public Forum:

- Ms Victoria Lugovoy – regarding – renaming of the Grawin Reserve Road to honour Captain Leo Fransen, who lost his life during the Hudson Bush Fire event.

03/2024/02 ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor WALFORD that the minutes from the Ordinary Council meeting held the 12th December 2023, the Extra Ordinary Council meeting held the 6th February 2024 that the minutes from the Ordinary Council meeting held the 12th December 2023, the Extra Ordinary Council meeting held the 6th February 2024 and Extra Ordinary Council Meeting held 19th February having been

circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on these meetings.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/03 LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING 7TH FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK that the minutes from the Local Area Traffic Committee held 7th February 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on these meetings.

03/2024/04 INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE SMALL SCALE OPAL MINING TITLES STATUTORY FRAMEWORK – EXTENSION OF TIME SUBMISSION

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that

- That Council note the information contained in this report
- That Council allocate \$12,000 ex GST from general rates and revenue to produce a report on the economic impact of opal mining on the Walgett Shire
- That the General Manager prepare a submission on behalf of Council into the Review of Small-Scale Opal Mining Titles Statutory Framework

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/05 NSW BUDGET SUBMISSION

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WALFORD; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that

1. That Council note the information contained in this report.
2. That Council endorse the priorities being put forward for funding to a 2024/25 NSW Government Budget Submission being prepared by the Member for Barwon
3. That the General Manager prepare a submission on behalf of Council reflecting Council priorities.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/06 MAYORAL MONTHLY REPORT

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that the mayoral report for January/February 2024 be received and noted.

03/2024/07 MATTERS IN PROGRESS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor CURREY that the Matters in Progress up until January 2024 be received and noted.

03/2024/08 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that the information contained in the following Department circular 23-15 through to 24-02 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet, be received and noted.

03/2024/09 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor CURREY that Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

03/2024/10 LIGHTNING RIDGE RACE CLUB REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRACK REPAIR

MOTION IN THE AGENDA: The Council review the donation request from Lightning Ridge Jockey Club that is unbudgeted and decide whether to grant complete funding, partial funding, or no funding at this time.

MOVED: COOKE SECONDED: SEATON

An amendment was moved as follows:

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK that the General Manager negotiate a contribution of up to \$10,000 for expenditure specifically related to flood repairs to the Lightning Ridge Jockey Club based on receipt of invoices. The amendment being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/11 REQUEST FOR DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS

AGENDA MOTION: The Council review the donation requests that are unbudgeted and decide whether to grant complete funding, partial funding, or no funding at this time.
MOVED: SEATON SECONDED: WOODCOCK

An amendment was moved as follows:

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that Council contribute \$10,000 to the Walgett Show Society.
The amendment being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

AMENDED MOTION

03/2024/12 PERMANENT STOCK ZONES IN THE WALGETT SHIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor WALFORD that Council undertake a 28-day notice period to declare “no permanent stock zones” and receive a report following the community consultation period.
The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/13 CASH AND INVESTMENT AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2023

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that the Investment report be received and noted.

03/2024/14 CASH AND INVESTMENT AS AT 31st JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WALFORD; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK that the Investment report be received and noted.

03/2024/15 OUTSTANDING RATES AND CHARGES AS AT 31st JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor WALFORD that the 31st January 2024 outstanding rates report be received and noted.

03/2024/16 SECTION 356 - REBATES TO CHURCHES & OTHER NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; SECONDED by Councillor CURREY that

1. That a budget adjustment of \$880 decreasing the 2023-24 budget from \$23,973 to \$23,093 be approved.

2. That the applications for a donation received/due to be received from eligible churches and not-for-profit organisations as per the attached list are approved and the rebates on annual service charges as detailed therein be granted for 2023/24

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/17 MACQUARIE BANK CASH MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT AS OF 31ST JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; SECONDED by Councillor SEATON that Council resolves to remove old signatories, add appointment of new signatories, approve new signatories' roles and approve signing instructions for the management of

Macquarie Bank Cash Management Account 968481408 and Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accelerator Account 940356066: and approve of signing instructions being any 2 signatories to authorize transfers and payments on both Macquarie Bank Cash Management Accounts.

Removal of Old Signatories	Signatory Role
1. Michael Urquhart	General Manager
2. Anthony Hughes	Director of Corporate Services
3. Raju Ranij	Director of Engineering/Technical Services

Additional Signatories	Signatory Role
1. Megan Dixon	General Manager
2. Hafiz Malik	Director of Corporate Services
3. Kazi Mahmud	Director of Engineering/Technical Services.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/18 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – DECEMBER 2023

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; **SECONDED** by Councillor SEATON that Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 31st December 2023 as tabled.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/19 DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY PROGRAM

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor CURREY; **SECONDED** by Councillor RUMMERY that:

1. That Council consider funding or partly funding the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program from 2024/25 onwards
2. Council considers funding commitment on an annual basis with reviews and support information presented to Council prior to commitment/agreement each year
3. Council allocate cost for Dolly Parton Imagination Library 2024/2025 from the annual State Library – Local Priority Grant.
4. That Council invite Leo Kirkman from Unite Way to work with Council towards finding additional funding avenues for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/20 MONTHLY MAINTENANCE GRADING REPORT AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WALFORD; **SECONDED** by Councillor COOKE that Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for January 2024.

03/2024/21 REPORT TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON MAJOR PROJECTS AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor SEATON that Council receive and note the monthly major projects report for January 2024.

03/2024/22 REPORT TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON TECHNICAL SERVICES PROGRESS AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor WOODCOCK that Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for January 2024.

03/2024/23 REPORT TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL WATER FUND AND FUTURE PROJECTS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor WOODCOCK that this report be accepted and noted.

03/2024/24 REPORT TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON MINING CAVITIES IN FRED REECE WAY AND LORNE ROAD

That Council approves;

1. Closure of Fred Reece Way and Lorne Road to all traffic weighing above 2 tonnes.
2. The installation of concrete chicanes to calm traffic in the area to exclude heavy vehicles completely.
3. Redirection of access to the airport for fuel trucks and garbage service vehicles via Stony Creek Road and the gravel road adjacent to the airport.
4. Upgrade of three intersections to accommodate articulated vehicles on the proposed alternative route.
5. Making representation to the Mines Department and Crown Lands Department emphasizing responsibility requirement to address this historic issue and seek financial support for rectification works.

Moved: Councillor WOODCOCK Seconded: Councillor SEATON

Councillor Cooke **declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room.**

There was an amendment to the recommendation.

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor WOODCOCK that Council approves:

That Council approves;

1. Closure of Fred Reece Way and Lorne Road to all traffic
2. The installation of concrete chicanes to calm traffic in the area to exclude heavy vehicles completely.
3. Redirection of access to the airport for fuel trucks and garbage service vehicles via Stony Creek Road and the gravel road adjacent to the airport.
4. Upgrade of three intersections to accommodate articulated vehicles on the proposed alternative route.
5. Making representation to the Mines Department and Crown Lands Department emphasizing responsibility requirement to address this historic issue and seek financial support for rectification works.

The amendment being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/25 REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT FROM LRMA

That council resolves to decline the reimbursement payment requested by LRMA Ltd for the installation of three 22,000–litre water storage tanks.

Moved: Walford

Seconded: Currey

Deputy Mayor Hundy and Councillor Cooke declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room.

There was an amendment to the recommendation.

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor CURREY; **SECONDED** by Councillor WALFORD That council resolves to decline the reimbursement payment requested by LRMA Ltd for the installation of three 22,000–litre water storage tanks until such time as the terms of engagement have been renewed.

The amendment being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03/2024/26 STREET DINING EXTENSION OF HOURS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; **SECONDED** by Councillor RUMMERY that Council endorse the extension of operation hours for Stones -Throw Café.

03/2024/27 IMPENDING EXPIRY OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONES

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; **SECONDED** by Councillor COOKE that Council resolve to:

1. Note the letter dated 17 February 2015 from the Superintendent of Castlereagh Local Area Command requesting that the existing Alcohol Free Zones at Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri be maintained for a four year period.
2. Undertake consultation regarding establishing alcohol free zones in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge for four years, over the same areas as the existing zones. This will include publicising and circulating a proposal document, as well as inviting public submissions, via:
 - (a) Advertising within the Walgett Spectator and Lightning Ridge News.
 - (b) Advertising on the Walgett Shire Council web site.
 - (c) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to the officer in charge of the Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri police stations.
 - (d) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board.
 - (e) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to any known organisation representing an identifiable Aboriginal or ethnic group within the local area
 - (f) Circulation of the proposal document via mail to all liquor licensees within or adjoining the proposed alcohol free zones.
1. Upon consultation received, concerning the alcohol free zone reintroduction, a report shall be submitted to the council with respect to the community consultation advertising out-come.

03/2024/28 GRAWIN/SHEEPYARDS BIN BANKS – WASTE STRATEGY

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor SEATON that Council resolve to:

1. Reserve the idea of the Bin Bank Strategy for Grawin/Sheepyards area until a suitable site solution can be obtained.
2. That council staff carry out further research into finding a suitable location for implementing the Bin Bank system.

03/2024/29 NEW WASTE DEPOT PERIMETER FENCES – GRAWIN AND SHEEPYARDS WASTE DEPOTS RESERVE NO. 1024168 GDA94/ZONE 55 & GDA94/MGA/ZONE 55

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; **SECONDED** by Councillor WALFORD that Council resolve to the matter of Council funding covering the costs for the perimeter security fences located at Grawin and Sheepyards Waste Depots, that to have the money to be allocated out in July 2024 - 2024/2025 financial year budget to carry out the construction of the security fences.

03/2024/30 MATTERS GENERALLY FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; **SECONDED** by Councillor CURREY that Council receive and note this report.

03/2024/31 DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS DECEMBER 2023 AND JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor SEATON that Council note the information contained within this report.

03/2024/32 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR SUBDIVISION & PLANNING PROPOSAL FOR SUBDIVISION AND REZONING 39 GEM STREET, LIGHTNING RIDGE

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; **SECONDED** by Councillor COOKE that:

1. That Council, will endorse the submission of the planning proposal of supporting documentation to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure to seek a Gateway Determination.
2. That Council, submit the Planning Proposal for rezoning of land at 39 Gem Street Lightning Ridge as outlined in the submission from Craig Barnes provided in the attachment to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway determination.
3. That Council endorse Council Staff to submit minor changes to Councils Local Environment Plan 2013 in conjunction with the above submission.
4. Subject to the receipt of Gateway determination from the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure proceed with the planning proposal and consultation with the government agencies in accordance Schedule 1, Division 1, Clause 4 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and any directions of the Gateway Determination.

03/2024/33 PLANNING PROPOSAL – INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor WOODCOCK that Council adopt the amendment.

03/2024/34 PLANNING PROPOSAL – RURAL RESIDENTIAL STRATEGY

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor CURREY; **SECONDED** by Councillor SEATON that Council adopt the amendment that Walgett Shire Council resolves to:

1. that Council receive and acknowledge the submissions on the Rural Residential Strategy.
2. that further research be undertaken by Council officers with regard to sites and funding of future residential developments before Council determines the strategy.

Councillor RUMMERY left the room due to a declared non-pecuniary interest.

CLOSED BUSINESS

Council **RESOLVED ON MOTION** by Councillor WOODCOCK; **SECONDED** by Councillor COOKE That the public be excluded from the meeting, pursuant to Sections 10 A (1) (a) (b) and (2) (a) (b) 7 (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with :

1. personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and
2. the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
3. information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,
4. commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed—
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

03C/2024/35 WATER FUND

Council RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; **SECONDED** by Councillor WOODCOCK That Council defer calling for tenders for the No 1 Bore Pipeline in Lightning Ridge until funding for the project is confirmed.

03C/2024/36 WATER USAGE CHARGES FOR ASSESSMENT 22434

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor CURREY that Council

- Accept the proposed reduction of \$923.94 in the water usage account according to legislation provisions.
- Consider the preparation of a report to Council regarding potential reduction in water access charges, highlighting policy consistency and financial implications.

An amendment was moved as follows:

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; **SECONDED** by Councillor CURREY that Council

- Accept the proposed reduction of \$923.94 in the water usage account according to legislation provisions.
- Consider the preparation of a report to Council regarding potential reduction in water access charges for stock and domestic use, highlighting policy consistency and financial implications.

The amendment being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

03C/2024/37 COME BY CHANCE ROAD RESCOPING

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that Council notes changes to the scope of works are required on the Come By Chance Project and approves entering into negotiation with

1. The funders to change the scope of works and
2. the Contractor to review and confirm revised length of road to be upgraded.

03C/2024/38 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES – 10th FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor COOKE that the report be received and noted.

03C/2024/39 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMREY; Seconded by Councillor CURREY that

1. The annual contribution to the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council be received and noted for payment.
2. work to implement a detailed service level agreement for weeds management that improves accountability for noxious weed services.

03C/2024/40 MIDTERM PERFORMANCE REVIEW – GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager left the meeting for the item, with Peter Evans from LGNSW facilitating a formal review with Councillors.

03C/2024/41 ORGANISATION RESTRUCTURE REPORT

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that council determined the revised organisation structure as presented by the General Manager in February 2024.

*There being no further business the meeting concluded at 4.33pm
Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting of Council*