



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

25 May 2010

RAY KENT
General Manager

ADOPTED: 28 June 2010

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 25 MAY 2010 COMMENCING AT 10:00AM

PRESENT

Clr I Woodcock (Mayor)
Clr G Colless (Deputy Mayor)
Clr K Smith
Clr L Walford
Clr R Greenaway
Clr D Lane
Clr G Murray
Ray Kent (General Manager)
Mrs M Lovegrove (Acting Director, Corporate & Community Services)
Mr I Taylor (Director, Rural Infrastructure & Support Services)
Mr F Coralde (Director, Urban Infrastructure Services)
Mr M Goodwin (Director, Planning and Regulatory Services)
Mrs J Campbell (Minute Secretary)

Welcome to Visitors

The Mayor welcomed all visitors to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

Apologies

129/10 Apologies

Resolution:

That an apology be accepted from Clr Keir and Clr Martinez and leave of absence be granted.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Public Forum Presentations

Duncan Thompson – item 17 – Proposed Coal/Gas Exploration Hole, Carinda

Duncan Thompson from CoalBed Concepts talking on behalf of Cydonia Resources spoke on issues related to the proposed Coal/Gas Exploration Hole at Carinda and explained what the process of the exploration hole entails.

Gargi Gangooli – Integrated Children and Family Centre

Gargi provided a presentation on the new Integrated Children and Family Centre for Lightning Ridge.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Cameron Rowntree – Walgett Showground

Cameron Rowntree, President of the Walgett Show Society spoke on following up from a previous Council meeting in February where issues were raised concerning the Walgett Showground and repairs that were needed.

He further advised that:

- The Society has obtained a grant to help with repairs
- Society has obtained a quote to fix the roof which is approximately \$40,000
- The Society would appreciate financial support out of funds allocated for Showground repairs in the Draft Budget.

10:30am *Clr Smith left the meeting*

10:33am *Clr Smith returned to the meeting*

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests

Clr Greenaway declared a minor non-pecuniary interest in item 2 in the Confidential Section - Procedure – Gates & Grids on Public Roads

130/10	Minutes of Council Meeting 27 April 2010
<p>Resolution:</p> <p>1. That the minutes of the Council meeting held 27 April 2010 be confirmed.</p> <p>Moved: Clr Lane Seconded: Clr Murray</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	

10:38am *Clr Colless Left the meeting*

131/10 Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting 11 May 2010

Resolution:

1. That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of Council held 11 May 2010 be confirmed with the following amendment:

That resolution 127/10 – proposed rates for Water and Sewer Funds 2010/2011 be changed to read as follows:

“That Walgett Shire Council:

1. *Establish a “Villages Water Fund” to account for water services to Rowena, Carinda and Cumborah.*
2. *Increase the Walgett water charge by \$86.44 to full cost recovery at \$876.61 per service, and set the Lightning Ridge water charge at \$351.34 per service to reduce accumulating surplus funds.*
3. *Consider a stepped reduction in water supply subsidies for Collarenerbi and the villages during the formulation of the 2011-2012 budget.*
4. *Review all sewer charges in the formulation of the 2011/2012 budget in line with best practice guidelines for water and sewer charging.”*

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

Reserve Trust Management Committee Reports

Nil

Mayoral Minutes

Refer to confidential section

Motions of which Notice has been given

Nil

10:41am Clr Colless returned to the meeting

Presentation of Petitions

Mr Rod White from the Gateway Hotel/Motel presented 2 petitions from 208 residents which stated the following:

1. *“We, the undersigned DO NOT want any changes to existing traffic Access for customer vehicles and Aust Post Deliveries to the Walgett Post Office, 61 Wee Waa Street from Fox Street via Monument roundabout directly into Wee Waa Street.*
2. *We, the undersigned, request NO Alterations be made to the EXISITING TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ACCESS from Fox Street, VIA Monument roundabout into Wee Waa St servicing:*
 - (i) *Gateway Motel guest parking area*
 - (ii) *Gateway Hotel Drive thru Bottle Shop and exit into Fox Street, Walgett be left unchanged.”*

132/10 Presentation of Petitions – from the Gateway Hotel/Motel in relation the Walgett Main Street Beautification Program

Resolution:

1. That Council receive the petitions organised by the Gateway Hotel/Motel regarding not making any changes/alterations to the existing traffic access to the Gateway Hotel/Motel and the Walgett Post Office in Wee Waa Street.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Councillors Questions with Notice

Councillor Greenaway

Question 1:

Burren Junction bore baths- what is the position regarding the commencement of the new evaporation pond?

Response:

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that Council is still waiting for the Department of Land's computerized title, however, to expedite the preparation of documents (DA and plans) leading to construction works, Council asked the Department of Lands for a licence to occupy the land. This licence may be ready in a couple of weeks.

Question 2:

Why hasn't the sign for the Primitive Camping Grounds been installed at Collarenebri? Are there going to be signs placed on the three entrance roads into the town?

Response:

The Acting Director Corporate & Community Services advised that the signs are to be erected on Monday 24th or Tuesday 25th May. A sign post will be positioned near the entrance to the primitive camping ground with a sign facing in each direction. No signs are proposed at the other entrances to the town.

Question 3:

Where are we up to regarding the Walgett main street beautification?

Response:

The Acting Director Corporate & Community Services advised that a request for a quote for a traffic study has been advertised and closes 11/6/2010.

Question 4:

Has the Lightning Ridge Visitor's extension been commenced? When will the Precinct Committees be advised when they can commence using the funds from the second round of infrastructure funding?

Response:

The Acting Director Corporate & Community Services advised that the VIC extension hasn't been completed, however, Council's part of the project has been completed. The Acting Director further advises that discussions with RLCIP last week have confirmed that they are satisfied that Council's round one contribution is complete and round 2 will commence on time, that is at the end of May. Written confirmation has yet to be received.

Question 5:

What is the present position regarding the building (known as Bruce's Garage) in the middle of Wilson Street Collarenebri? What action has been taken to collect overdue rates? Has the owner of the building been placed in liquidation? A person in Collarenebri has made enquiries regarding the purchase of the building but has been advised that it is in receivership

Response:

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that a demolition order has been issued and time for compliance has yet to expire.

The Acting Director Corporate & Community Services advises that she will provide a response at the Council meeting.

Reports of Delegates and Representatives

133/10 Orana Regional Organisation of Councils - Minutes

Resolution:

1. That the minutes for the April 2010 meeting of the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils be received.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

134/10 Outback Arts - Minutes

Resolution:

1. That the minutes of the March meeting of Outback Arts be received.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

135/10 Water Utilities Resources Sharing Group - Minutes

Resolution:

1. That Council note the Minutes of the Meeting of Water Utilities Resource Sharing Group held on 19 April 2010 at Moree Shire Council.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

136/10 NSW Rural Fire Service North West Zone Bush Fire Management Committee Minutes

Recommendation:

1. That Council note the draft minutes of the North West Zone NSW Rural Fire Service Bush Fire Management Committee meeting April 2010.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

137/10 Coonabarabran – Pilliga – Mungindi Upgrade Project Steering Committee Meetings Minutes

Resolution:

1. That Council note the draft minutes of the Coonabarabran - Mungindi Road Upgrade Steering Committee meeting May 2010.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Reservation of items for Debate

Nil

Reports of Officers

138/10 Council decisions Action Report – 27.04.10

Resolution:

1. That the report be received.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

139/10 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 31 April 2010

Resolution:

1. That the cash on hand and investment report as at 30 April 2010 be received.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

11:09am Clr Smith left the meeting
11:10am Clr Smith returned to the meeting

11:11am Clr Smith left the meeting

140/10 Quarterly Budget Review as at 31 March 2010

Resolution:

1. That Council note the quarterly budget review for the period to 31 March 2010 and adopt the changes as recommended.

Moved: Clr Colless
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

141/10 Naming of Lightning Ridge Skate Park

Resolution:

1. That community suggestions be sought for the naming of the Lightning Ridge Skate Park.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

142/10 Community Development Worker Position

Motion:

1. That the position of Community Development Officer not be made permanent.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Lane

AMENDMENT:

1. That this item be deferred for consideration at the June 2010 Council meeting.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Walford

AMENDMENT BECAME MOTION AND WAS CARRIED

143/10 Walgett Community Gardens

Resolution:

1. That \$10,000 be contributed from the current community services budget to the Walgett Community Gardens project.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

144/10 Draft Management Plan 2010-2014

Resolution:

That public notice be given, pursuant to Section 532 of the Local Government Act 1993, of a proposal to make the following resolutions at the June 2010 Ordinary meeting of Council:

- a. That Council resolves to adopt the rates structure for ordinary rates as follows:

Ordinary Rates

Description	No Assess	Rate in \$	Base	Minimum	2011 Ad Valorum	2011 Base	2011 Total	2011 Base %	Avg Per Assess
Walgett Residential	638	0.04369734	175.00	0	171,472.80	111,650.00	283,122.80	39.44%	443.77
L/Ridge Residential	656	0.01088330	175.00	0	176,438.97	114,800.00	291,238.97	39.42%	443.96
Collarenebri Residential	205	0.11750000	133.00	0	47,889.96	27,265.00	75,154.96	36.28%	366.61
B/Junction Residential	98	0.03300000	123.00	0	21,167.85	12,054.00	33,221.85	36.28%	339.00
Carinda Residential	76	0.15315102	72.00	0	6,623.75	5,472.00	12,095.75	45.24%	159.15
Cumborah Residential	56	0.01705212	67.00	0	5,187.28	3,752.00	8,939.28	41.97%	159.63
Rowena/CBC Residential	40	0.42590286	67.00	0	3,704.95	2,680.00	6,384.95	41.97%	159.62
Residential - Preserved Opal Fields	1773	0.05008896	118.00	0	214,569.50	209,214.00	423,783.50	49.37%	239.02
Residential - Other	109	0.00796433	118.00	0	23,549.22	12,862.00	36,411.22	35.32%	334.05
Walgett Business	113	0.04860960	225.00	0	66,982.07	25,425.00	92,407.07	27.51%	817.76
L/Ridge Business	106	0.01031130	225.00	0	64,263.16	23,850.00	88,113.16	27.07%	831.26
Collarenebri Business	32	0.12098592	185.00	0	12,871.66	5,920.00	18,791.66	31.50%	587.24
B/Junction Business	19	0.03591000	175.00	0	8,966.74	3,325.00	12,291.74	27.05%	646.93
Carinda Business	13	0.03601415	103.00	0	2,625.42	1,339.00	3,964.42	33.78%	304.96
Cumborah Business	0	0.01705212	67.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Rowena/CBC Business	7	0.32388255	103.00	0	971.64	721.00	1,692.64	42.60%	241.81
Business - Preserved Opal Fields	56	0.06156000	175.00	0	14,903.66	9,800.00	24,703.66	39.67%	441.14
Business - Other	98	0.01008815	139.00	0	14,291.90	13,622.00	27,913.90	48.80%	284.84
Rural (Farmland)	724	0.00449338	0.00	175.34	2,226,961.61	0.00	2,226,961.61	0.00%	3,075.91
Rural Irrigable	87	0.00540944	0.00	175.34	715,970.90	0.00	715,970.90	0.00%	8,229.55
Total Ordinary Rates	4906				3,799,413.04	583751.00	4,383,164.04		

Notional Yield	4,268,128.08
Increase 2.6%	110,971.33
Under rated in 2010	4,065.00
2010 Farmland Writeoff	0.00
Allowable Yield	4,383,164.41

- b. That Council resolves in accordance with Section 563 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, to make the discount 3.6% for payment in full of total rates and charges (less any rebates) for ratepayers whose payments are received in full on or before the 27 August 2010.
- c. That Council adopt the Budget and Management Plan for 2010/2011 – 2014/2015 as presented.
- d. That council adopt a 2.6% increase in the total levy for General Fund Rates.
- e. That the interest rate to be charged on overdue rates be set at the maximum percentage permissible per annum
- f. That the Fees and Charges as listed in the report be adopted, with Council reserving the right to vary fees and charges of a commercial nature as circumstances require.
- g. That the Budget and Management Plan be advertised in accordance with legislation.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

145/10 Draft Bush Fire Prone Land Map 2010

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report on the draft Walgett Shire Bush Fire Prone Land Map 2010.
2. Adopt the Walgett Shire Bush Fire Prone Land Map 2010.
3. Submit the Walgett Shire Bush Fire Prone Land Map 2010 and associated geographical information system data to The Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service and request that they certify it as the current map for the Walgett Shire.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

11:28am Clr Murray left the meeting
11:29am Mayor adjourned the meeting

11:41am Mayor reconvened the meeting
11:41am Clr Murray returned to the meeting

146/10 Proposed Western Land Lease – Astronomers Monument

Resolution:

1. That Walgett Shire Council has no objection to Orel Lea being granted a western lands lease that is up to 2,700 square metres in area over the site known as Astronomer's Monument on the preserved opal fields at Lightning Ridge.
2. This support is based on Council not incurring any cost to assist Orel Lea in her endeavours.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

147/10 Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report on Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Director Planning and Regulatory Services or General Manager during April 2010.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

148/10 Urban Addressing

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Endorse the Collarenebri Street Number Map 2010, as attached to the report on urban addressing at Collarenebri.
2. Endorse the acquisition and distribution of street number plates to building owners in Collarenebri.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

149/10 Proposed Coal/Gas Exploration hole Carinda

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note Cydonia Resources Pty Ltd letter dated 5 May 2010 to Walgett Shire Council regarding a proposed coal / gas exploration core hole at the Carinda airstrip (lot 42, DP 751556).
2. Respond to Cydonia Resources Pty Ltd's correspondence dated 5 May 2010, as the occupier of lot 42, DP 751556 under perpetual lease, by stating that it has no objection to the proposed "Carinda 1" exploration well (core hole) and the use of water from the dam on the site, provided that:
 - (a) There is no significant adverse impact on the Carinda urban water supply bore.
 - (b) There is no significant adverse impact on the Carinda airstrip.
 - (c) The site is maintained in a safe and stable state.
 - (d) There is no objection from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.
 - (e) There is no objection from the land owner, being the Land and Property Management Authority.
3. Investigate the possibility of the bore hole being used as a water supply bore after Cydonia Resources cease their work.
4. If it is technically feasible to utilise any released water then request that Cydonia Resources give consideration to working with Council to enable this to happen.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

150/10 Review of State Water Corporation Act 2004

Resolution:

1. Council note the Workshop Review Minutes of the meeting of State Water Corporation Act 2004 held on 09 April 2010.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

151/10 Revocation of Aviation Security Identification of Walgett and Lightning Ridge Aerodromes

Resolution:

1. Council note the Revocation Notices of Aviation Security Identification Card (ASIC) to Walgett and Lightning Ridge Aerodromes by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government effective March 2010.
2. Council authorize the General Manager to place permanent public notices to both Walgett and Lightning Ridge Aerodromes regarding the Revocation Notices.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

152/10 Ivanhoe Crossing Road

Resolution:

That Council:

1. Remove Ivanhoe Crossing Road from the Rural Addressing road network map for the Walgett Shire.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

153/10 Business Systems Improvement – Rural Infrastructure & Support Services

Resolution:

That Council:

1. Endorse the invitation of proposals from firms with suitable expertise and qualifications to review and analyse the business structure, resourcing, and adequacy of systems, used by Council to deliver road maintenance and associated services and to provide recommendations to improve Council's business systems in Rural Infrastructure & Support Services, including the preparation of a Project Improvement Plan in accordance with the Road Maintenance Council Contract.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

154/10 MR333 Cumberdoon Way Flood Damage Rectification

Resolution:

That Council:

1. Note the recommendation to upgrade MR333 Cumberdoon Way to a gravel pavement where it has been affected by flood damage in the December 2009 Flood Event.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Questions without Notice

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

In relation to the Golf Club, John Witts received a call from a Council staff member asking for a key to the golf club. Just letting you know that there are numerous keys needed to get into the Golf Club.

Response:

Directors had no knowledge of anyone needing a key to the Golf Club. The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that he will look into this matter.

Question 2:

There is only one sign currently erected at the Collarenebri Primitive Camping Grounds. Can we get some more signs at the Walgett and Mungindi entrances to Collarenebri informing tourists that there is a camping area in the town?

155/10 Primitive Camping Grounds – Signs at Collarenebri town entrances

Resolution:

That two information signs be erected at the entrances to Collarenebri from Walgett and Mungindi.

Moved: Clr Greenway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

156/10 Expression of Interest – Traffic Study

Resolution:

That responses to the Expression of Interest for a traffic study in relation to the Walgett Beautification Program come back to Council for consideration.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Question 3:

There is an overgrown lot in the main street of Collarenebri that is of great concern to the community, what can be done about it?

Response:

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that as previously mentioned Council does not have any legal authority to take action on this matter. He further advised that the matter should be directed to the Rural Fire Service who are able to deal with it. If there is no action then the matter can be taken higher within that organisation.

Clr Colless

Question 1:

There was a serious assault on a business owner in Walgett over the weekend. Is Council able to pursue with police that all avenues are explored in dealing with this matter? Can Council offer some sort of support for the business owners? It would be sad to see them have to leave this town because of this incident.

Response:

The Mayor responded that he would provide a letter of consolation and support to the Proprietor.

Question 2:

In relation to the skate parks, has there been anything done in relation to the slump?

Response:

The General Manager advised that he is unable to provide a response at this time and that the Director Corporate & Community Services and Manager Community Services and Tourism are both away and will be the appropriate staff members to provide the response.

Question 3:

Are we able to get a relieving Pound Officer? There seems to be a lot of dogs out on the streets lately.

Response:

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that we will shortly advertise for a casual relieving Regulatory Officer. He further advised that he currently has other staff in his Department being used to pick up surrenders, and any other emergencies such as dog attacks are being referred to the NSW Police authority to deal with.

Question 4:

Can we look into getting someone from Moree or surrounding Councils to come over and relieve?

Response:

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that we currently don't have a budget to enable us to do this.

Clr Murray

157/10 Letter to Shadow Minister for Police – Visit to Walgett

Resolution:

That Council write a letter to the Shadow Minister for Police, the Shadow Attorney General, with a copy to local member Kevin Humphries, inviting them to visit Walgett.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Question 1:

What is happening with the town water at Carinda?

Response:

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that Council has begun removing the previously installed water meters in Carinda due to the concerns of residents of low pressure. He further advised that they plan to put a booster in to try and improve the system in stages for this year and the next.

Question 2:

In relation to Come by Chance, are we going to bitumen out there?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services advised that the job should be in progress now and should be close to finishing. He further advised that the bitumen should be from the cemetery to the last house in Come By Chance.

Clr Walford

Question 1:

In relation to BlueLight in Lightning Ridge, a grant was sought when Council was in Administration for the organisation to purchase a trailer. There was some correspondence that indicated that if the organisation folded that the trailer would come back to Council. The organisation is still operational but Council staff are wanting the trailer. Can this matter be looked into and can we have a copy of the correspondence?

Response:

The General Manager advised that he will take this matter on notice for the Director Corporate & Community Services and that copies of any correspondence will be provided to Councillors.

Clr Woodcock

Question 1:

There is a road that comes from the Walk in Mine at Lightning Ridge which leads onto the Woolaroo road, just near the cemetery. When cars travel on this road they don't give way to other cars on the Woolaroo road. Can we get a giveway sign placed on this road?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services advised that he is not sure if this road is a Council road. He further advised that he will inform the traffic committee of this request.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

158/10 Move into Closed Session

Resolution:

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

- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer
- (c) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

159/10 Walgett Shire Council Mayoral Minute: Offers to purchase 32 Euroka Street, Walgett

Resolution:

That Walgett Shire Council:

1. Not accept any offer to purchase 32 Euroka St, Walgett (lot K, DP 414481).
2. Withdraw the property from sale.
3. Engage a non Walgett firm to auction the property.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

160/10 Outstanding Walgett Swimming Club Loan

Resolution:

1. That Walgett Shire Council write off this debt against the provision for doubtful debts

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Clr Greenaway noted his declaration of a minor non pecuniary interest.

161/10 Procedure – Gates & Grids on Public Roads

Resolution:

That Council:

1. Note the Walgett Shire Council Procedure – Gates and Grids on Public Roads.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Councillors agreed on holding an Extraordinary Meeting of Council at 10.00am on Saturday 5 June 2010 to enable the Councillors to interview the three short listed candidates for the position of General Manager.

162/10 Move back into open session

Resolution:

That Council return to open session

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 1:18pm

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on Monday 28th June 2010

Mayor

General Manager