



# **WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES**

**26 October 2010**

*ADOPTED: 23 November 2010*

**DON RAMSLAND**  
*General Manager*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE  
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2010  
COMMENCING AT 10.02AM**

**PRESENT**

Clr I Woodcock (Mayor)  
Clr G Colless (Deputy Mayor)  
Clr L Walford  
Clr R Greenaway  
Clr G Murray  
Clr M Martinez  
Clr J Keir  
Clr K Smith  
Mr D Ramsland (General Manager)  
Mr I Taylor (Director, Rural Infrastructure & Support Services)  
Mr M Goodwin (Director, Planning and Regulatory Services)  
Mr F Coralde (Director, Urban Infrastructure Services)  
Ms Carole Medcalf (Director Corporate & Community Services)  
Mrs D Parker (Minute Secretary)

**Welcome to Visitors**

The Mayor welcomed Carole Wright and Country Energy representatives to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

**Apologies**

Clr David Lane

**Public Forum Presentations**

**Country Energy:**

- Peter Halliwell spoke on the need for an increase in pricing due to a need for investment in infrastructure.
- Mr Halliwell also advised that Country Energy would be supplying Walgett and Lightning Ridge libraries with 2 or 3 power mate devices each, which can be borrowed by patrons.
- Mr Halliwell also reinforced that safety should always come first when dealing with power.

**Ms Carole Wright spoke on the following matters:**

- Ms Wright presented a petition in relation to the Wangdon Bridge and the safety concerns of the residents. The petition was handed to Council.
- Ms Wright also spoke in relation to her mail run not being able to get through to towns on her route. The General Manager advised that there is a report being presented at today's meeting in relation to the bridge and that repairs were in the process of being carried out. The General Manager further advised that he would keep Ms Wright up to date with any progress.

**Mr Steve Cross spoke on the following matters:**

- Mr Cross spoke in relation to several residents writing to Council in relation to the state of the roads and not receiving any replies to these queries. The Director of Rural Infrastructure Services advised that he has received several pieces of correspondence and each of these has been replied to.

**Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interest**

- Councillor Greenaway declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 2 of the Closed Agenda as he has an acquaintance of the person referred to in the report.
- Councillor Smith declared a pecuniary interest in Item 2 of the Closed Agenda as he is the spouse of the person referred to in the report
- Councillor Woodcock declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 2 of the Closed Agenda as he is involved in the action referred to in the report.

**Confirmation of Minutes**

**312/10 Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting 28 September 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That the minutes of the Council meeting held 28 September 2010 be confirmed.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

**Reserve Trust Management Committee Reports**

Nil

**Mayoral Minutes**

**313/10 Walgett Shire Council Mayoral Minute – Tourism Billboards**

**Motion:**

1. That \$26,800 proposed to be allocated to the Lightning Ridge Billboard committee to be used for the implementation of 14 billboards for Walgett Shire Council be further investigated.
2. That a report and photographs be presented to the November Council meeting.

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway

**Seconded:** Clr Martinez

**CARRIED**

## **Motion of which Notice has been given**

**314/10      Development of more land and light industrial development in the Shire**

**Motion:**

That Council investigate the feasibility of developing more land at Walgett and Lightning Ridge for house and light industrial development in the Shire.

**Moved:**            Clr Murray

**Seconded:**      Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

## **Presentation of Petitions**

Petition presented in public forum by Ms Carole Wright in relation to the Wangan Bridge.

## **Councillors Questions with Notice**

### **Clr Greenaway:**

**Question 1:**

Has a quote been accepted for the electrical repairs to the Rowena Hall & what were the details of the successful quote?

**Response:**

The General Manager advises that the Rowena Hall projects are in round 2 (\$10,000) and round 3 (\$5,000) of the RLCIP. It is one of the projects where responsibility had recently been transferred from the DCCS to the DUIS. The three quotes obtained for the work range from \$6,000 to \$14,500 (approximately) and in view of the large variation the quotes are being reviewed to ensure that they cover all the costs involved as it is believed some may have been prepared without an actual site visit. If the cost of works exceeds \$10,000, then the acceptance of quotes will be delayed until the agreement for round 3 funding is finalised. The General Manager further advised a revamp of the project will need to take place if the budget is exceeded.

**Question 2:**

When will the signs for the primitive camping area which were promised to be erected on the roads from Walgett & Mungindi, be erected?

**Response:**

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services advises that my Department has arranged the approval of certain signs by the NSW RTA because it was proposed that they be placed on a State Highway. The signs at Collarenebri have been installed. The signs at Walgett have not been installed because the correct signs have not yet been supplied for installation.

**Question 3:**

When is council going to remove the damaged carport/lube bay in Wilson Street Collarenebri or are they going to wait until a sheet of iron blows off the building and results in a person being injured or damages a person's property and the council being sued?

**Response:**

The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advises that as per previous advice on this matter, the landowner is responsible for the safety of their premises, not Council. A report has been submitted to the October Council meeting recommending that Council note that a demolition order issued for the premises on 1 September 2010 has not been complied with. The report also notes that Council now can legally undertake the work required by the order, and recommends that Council allocate a budget to enable the building to be demolished.

**Question 4:**

When is the annual meeting of Namoi House going to be held?

**Response:**

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised as soon as audit is received from auditor

**Clr Keir**

**Question 1:**

Where we are up to with repairs to Shire road 7716 Walgett Pilliga road, most importantly the side track for the Wangan bridge & the small bridge which is due to be demolished on the Walgett end at the 20km point?

**Response:**

The Director Rural Infrastructure & Support Services advises that some work has been completed in preparation for the demolition of 13 Mile Bridge and to minimise delays by wet weather. It is proposed to raise the height of the Wangan Side Track, but we are not in a position to confirm a time for commencement of these works.

**Question 2:**

Where are the bridge contractors are up to with the replacement of the 7 bridges particularly the Epping bridges off SR 7716?

**Response:**

The Director Rural Infrastructure & Support Services advises that they are working on the bridges concurrently. The deck is complete on 26 Mile, piles are complete on Sparkes, and Cumberland and Epping bridges are ready for piling. All bridges have trafficable side tracks at the time of writing. The piling subcontractor should be available Monday 18 October. The intention is to pile the Epping bridges first unless wet weather prohibits access when they arrive (as was the original plan). Then Cumberland and Castlereagh Bridges will be piled in that order. Preparation works are in place jointly with the contractor to prepare the Castlereagh site for piling even if the river rises to 1m (it is currently at 0.2m).

**Question 3:**

Some time ago at a Council meeting we put aside money, I think \$30k for a feasibility study to upgrade SR 7716, has this been completed?

**Response:**

The Director Rural Infrastructure & Support Services advises that referring to the Rural Infrastructure and Support Services Capital Works Program 2010/2011. This project is currently in line with that program, although it is unlikely that the Brief would be issued prior to January 2011.

**Reports of Delegates and Representatives**

Nil

**Reservation of items for Debate**

Nil

**Reports of Officers**

**315/10      Circulars received from the Division of Local Government – October 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That the information contained in the Departmental circulars 10-23 to 10-24 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

**Moved:**            Clr Colless

**Seconded:**      Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**316/10      Circulars received from the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW – October 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That the information contained in the weekly circulars from the Local Government and Shires Association be received and noted.

**Moved:**            Clr Keir

**Seconded:**      Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

**317/10 Monthly Calendar – October 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That Council note the regular monthly calendar as an agenda item to the monthly meeting.

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway

**Seconded:** Clr Smith

**CARRIED**

**318/10 Review of Council Policies and Procedures**

**Motion:**

That Council endorse the recommendation of the General Manager and note that the revised approach to the format of Policies, Codes and standard operating procedures will be progressively introduced when the various documents are revised.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Martinez

Director Corporate and Community Services advised that it is a requirement to have these policies kept in separate formats

**CARRIED**

**319/10 Draft Community Strategic Plan - Progress**

**Motion:**

That the report be received and noted and a workshop to review the draft document be held following the October, 2010 meeting.

**Moved:** Clr Smith

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**320/10 Reporting on Disclosure Returns**

**Motion:**

That Council receive and note the General Manager's report.

**Moved:** Clr Martinez

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

**321/10 Works Programmes – 2010/2011**

**Motion:**

That the report be received and noted and the various works programmes be adopted.

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**322/10 Council decisions Action Report – 28.09.10**

**Motion:**

1. That the report be received.

**Moved:** Clr Colless

**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**323/10 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from General Manager – October 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That the matters listed by the General Manager for brief mention or information only be received and noted wording of the recommendation here

**Moved:** Clr Murray

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**324/10 Debt Recovery Progress Report**

**Motion:**

1. That Council note the Debt Recovery Flow Report and the Summary Report Information Comparison Graph.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**



**325/10 Report on Youth Development and Services – July to September 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That the quarterly report on Youth Development and Services for the period July – September 2010 be noted.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**326/10 Community Development and Tourism Quarterly Report (July – September 2010)**

**Motion:**

1. That the Community Development and Tourism quarterly report (July – September 2010) be received and noted

**Moved:** Clr Colless

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**327/10 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 30 September 2010**

**Motion:**

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

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway

**Seconded:** Clr Colless

**CARRIED**

**328/10 Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications**

**Motion:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

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

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**329/10 Development Application – Fuel Tank & Light Tower**

**Motion:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Approve Development Application 2010/036 lodged by Walgett Shire Council for a containerised self bunded fuel tank and light tower at Lot 102, DP 1146582, Euroka Street, Walgett subject to the conditions of development consent recommended by council's Director of Planning & Regulatory Services.

**Moved:** Clr Smith

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**For:**

Clr Keir, Clr Smith, Clr Woodcock, Clr Greenaway, Clr Murray, Clr Walford, Clr Colless, Clr Martinez

**Against:**

Nil

(Note: Clr Lane an apology)

**CARRIED**

**330/10 Development Application – Dementia Day Care Centre**

**Motion:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Approve Development Application 2010/027 for a Dementia Day Care Centre at Lot 3 in DP 1100315, Pandora Street, Lightning Ridge subject to the conditions of development consent recommended by council's Town Planning staff.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**For:**

Clr Keir, Clr Smith, Clr Woodcock, Clr Greenaway, Clr Murray, Clr Walford, Clr Colless, Clr Martinez

**Against:**

Nil

(Note: Clr Lane an apology)

**CARRIED**

**331/10 Urban Addressing at Lightning Ridge**

**Motion:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report on Urban Addressing at Lightning Ridge, as prepared by Council's Geographic Information Systems Coordinator.
2. Note that in circumstances where buildings at Lightning Ridge are not clearly identified by a correct street number and there is an adequate established address system in place, letters will be sent to the landholder to:
  - (a) Notify them of their correct street number.
  - (b) Request that they affix the correct street number, as supplied by Council, in a readily visible place.
3. Engage in public consultation for at least one month regarding a proposal to change some street numbers in Pandora and Harlequin Streets, Lightning Ridge so that additional numbers can be allocated within each street. Consultation will include:
  - (a) Advertisements in Council's newspaper column in the Ridge News.
  - (b) Making available an information package available via the Walgett Shire Council Chambers, Lightning Ridge Library, Trans Cultural Community Council office and Council's web site.
  - (c) Informing affected landowners of proposed renumbering via a letter personally delivered by Council's GIS Coordinator, where practical.
  - (d) Informing service providers of the proposed renumbering via a letter personally delivered by Council's GIS Coordinator, where practical. Service providers shall include the Police, Ambulance, Fire Service, SES, RFS, Country Energy and Telstra.
  - (e) Inviting writing submissions on the proposed renumbering.
4. Consider all written submissions received on the proposal to change some street numbers in Pandora and Harlequin Streets, Lightning Ridge prior to making any decision regarding the proposal.
5. Endorse the acquisition and distribution of street number plates to building owners in Lightning Ridge.

**Moved:** Clr Colless

**Seconded:** Clr Smith

**CARRIED**

12.09pm Clr Keir left the meeting

**332/10 Stormwater and Drainage Valuation Report**

**Motion:**

1. Council note and accept the Footpath Valuation Report 2010.
2. Council note the Section 8: Improvement Plan of the Footpath Valuation Report 2010.
3. Council approve, in principle, to prepare a 20-Year Footpath Asset Management Plan in 2011-12.
4. Council to consider allocating \$80,000 fund for the global stormwater and drainage modelling plan during the formulation of 2011-12 budget preparation.

**Moved:** Clr Walford

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

12.10pm Clr Walford left the meeting

12.11pm Clr Keir returned to the meeting

**333/10 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Urban Infrastructure Services**

**Motion:**

1. That the matters listed by the Director Urban Infrastructure Services for brief mention or information only be received and noted wording of the recommendation here.

**Moved:** Clr Smith

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

12.14pm Clr Walford returned to the meeting

12.14pm Clr Smith left the meeting

**334/10 Retention of Flats Located at 32 Eureka Street, Walgett**

**Motion:**

2. That Council withdraw the flats located at 32 Eureka Street, Walgett from the market for sale and remove the "For Sale" signs immediately.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Colless

**CARRIED**

12.16pm Clr Smith returned to the meeting

**335/10 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Rural Infrastructure & Support Services – October 2010**

**Motion:**

1. That the matters listed by the Director Rural Infrastructure & Support Services for brief mention or information only be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway

**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**Questions without Notice**

**Clr Woodcock:**

**Question 1:**

Could Council possibly put on an event in honour of Peter Waterford for his previous services as a Councillor?

**Response:**

The General Manager advised that he would arrange an event in co-ordination with the Mayor.

**336/10 Event in Honour of Peter Waterford**

**Motion:**

That Council investigate the possibility of having a testimonial gathering in honour of Peter Waterford for his previous service as a Councillor.

**Moved:** Clr Keir

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

**Clr Murray**

**Question 1:**

With regard to the Rural Financial Counsellor's resignation, has there been someone else appointed in the position here in Walgett?

**Response:**

The General Manager advised that he had spoken with Jeff Caldbeck who advises that they were in the process of approaching a previous applicant to fill the vacancy.

12.45pm Clr Murray left the meeting

**Clr Keir**

**Question 1:**

What is happening with the Come by Chance hall in regard to the Regional Infrastructure projects for Round II and Round III?

**Response:**

The General Manager advised that he is in the process of revamping these programs at the moment as the electrical work was completed before the grant funds became available.

**Clr Greenaway**

**Question 1:**

With regard to the driveway that leads into the Club in Collarenebri, when will the work be done here?

**Response:**

The Director of Rural Infrastructure Services advised that he will take this question on notice.

**Question 2:**

With regard to Shire Road 14, are there any plans to grade this road?

**Response:**

The Director of Rural Infrastructure Services advised that he will take this question on notice.

12.47pm Clr Murray returned to the meeting

12.47pm Clr Colless left the meeting

**Clr Smith:**

**Question 1:**

At the 12km mark on the Gwydir Highway coming from Collarenebri there is a section of road which runs for about 1km which has broken up on the outsides. Is this problem being addressed?

**Response:**

The Director of Rural Infrastructure Services advised that he will take this question on notice.

12.50pm Clr Keir left the meeting

12.50pm Clr Colless returned to the meeting

**Question 2:**

What is involved in moving a ramp located on a Shire road?

**Response:**

The Director of Rural Infrastructure Services advised that Council would need to be advised as there are OH & S concerns when carrying out this work. The job would then be attended to when there is availability in the works schedule.

12.55pm Clr Keir returned to the meeting

**337/10 Move into closed session 1.33pm**

**Motion:**

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (2)(a)(b) and (c) 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
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

**Moved:** Clr Murray

**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**338/10 Review of Organisational Structure**

**Motion:**

1. That Council endorse the recommendation of the General Manager for changes to the following:
  - a. transfer of the functional areas of Economic Development and Legal Services, associated staff resources and committee responsibilities to the General Manager as these are areas where he has considerable experience and can hit the ground running.:
  - b. Creation of the following positions:
    - \* Rural Infrastructure and Support Division - a Contracts Administration Engineer, an Administrative Services Co-ordinator and a Design Engineer.
    - \* Urban Infrastructure Division - a short term Project Co-ordinator
2. That funding sources for these positions be identified in conjunction with the quarterly financial review for the period ending 30 September, 2010 when it is placed before Council for consideration in November
3. And the proposals be referred to the next Award Consultative Committee for comment and appropriate action be taken following receipt of those comments.

**Moved:** Clr Colless

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

1.40pm Clr Smith and Clr Woodcock left the meeting

**339/10 Industrial Dispute Hearing**

**Motion:**

1. That Walgett Shire Council receives and notes the report.

**Moved:** Clr Colless

**Seconded:** Clr Keir

Clr Greenaway requested that it be noted that he voted against this resolution.

**CARRIED**

1.55pm Clr Smith and Clr Woodcock returned to the meeting

**340/10 Offer from Pallier regarding Assessment 6312**

**Motion:**

That Council adopt option 1 and accept the offer of \$4,000 and write off the remaining rates and charges under part 5 Division 3 Section 131 of the Regulations.

**Moved:** Clr Colless

**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

**341/10 Derelict Buildings, Herbert St, Collarenebri**

**Motion:**

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note that order 2 under section 121B of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 issued by Walgett Shire Council on 1 September 2010 to the landowners requiring the demolition of a derelict car port located on lot 1, DP 186099 in Wilson St., Collarenebri.
2. Note that the Insolvency Trustee Service Australia and Oliver David Cridge, as the landowners of lot 1, DP 186099, have not made any written submissions or complied with the order requiring the demolition of the derelict car port.
3. Establish a new budget expenditure line item for \$2,000 titled "Demolition - Wilson St Collarenebri" and reduce the existing budget of \$53,192 for the Walgett Airport Pesticide Pit Remediation by \$2,000.



4. Request that the General Manager arrange for the demolition of the derelict carport located on lot 1, DP 186099 in Wilson St., Collarenebri by a suitably experienced and insured party.

**Moved:** Clr Smith  
**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

**342/10 Professional Fee Proposal – Aboriginal Water and Sewerage Program**

**Motion:**

1. Council accept the offer from NSW Office of Water (NOW) to manage the three Aboriginal Water and Sewerage Systems for 12 months effective 30 October 2010.
2. Council accept the offer from NSW Office of Water to collect a lump sum management fee of \$36,763.70 including GST, which is equivalent to 15% of BHC Plumbing Contractors proposal of \$245,091.55 including GST.

**Moved:** Clr Colless  
**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**343/10 Open Session 2.05pm**

**Motion:**

1. That Council return to Open Session.

**Moved:** Clr Keir  
**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**344/10 Adoption of Reports**

**Motion:**

That Council adopt the following reports of the Closed Committee:

1. Industrial Dispute Hearing
2. Offer from Pallier regarding Assessment 6312
3. Derelict Buildings, Hebert St, Collarenebri
4. Professional Fee Proposal – Aboriginal Water and Sewerage Program

**Moved:** Clr Colless  
**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**Disclosure Returns**

Pursuant to Section 450A of the Local Government Act 1993 the General Manager tabled disclosure returns completed and submitted pursuant to Section 449 of the Act by the following designated persons:

Carole Medcalf

Fred Coralde

Ian Taylor

Lianne Tasker

Matthew Goodwin

The meeting closed at 2.08pm

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Manager