



**MINUTES FOR
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

28th April, 2015

ADOPTED:

Don Ramsland
GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 28 April, 2015 AT 10:00AM

PRESENT

Clr Lane (Mayor)
Clr Keir
Clr Murray
Clr Walford
Clr Taylor
Clr Woodcock
Clr Cooper
Clr Greenaway
Clr Martinez
Don Ramsland (General Manager)
Stephen Holland (Director Corporate Services)
Matthew Goodwin (Director Planning & Regulatory Services)
Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)
Dilip Tiwari (Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services)
Matthew Clarkson (Town Planner)
Bronte Kerr (Minute Secretary)

Apologies – Nil

Public Forum Presentations

National Australia Bank Representatives:

Scott McLane (NAB Regional Executive for the Central West) and Paul Juergens (NAB Retail General Manager NSW North) discussed the following;

- Mr McLane informed the Councillors and the Public that he and Mr Juergens are here to clarify the position of NAB in relation to the announcement made last week and discuss what NAB is going to do post the announcement.
- Mr McLane advised that on the grounds of the ongoing suitability of the building and structural problems with the building that do not allow NAB to occupy the building for more than six months, NAB has made the decision to close the branch.
- The reality of the situation is post the 2nd of October 2015, there will not be a branch presence from the National Australia Bank in Walgett.
- Over the next six months, NAB would like to help as many customers as possible adapt to other methods of banking; phone and internet and address any concerns the public may have as well as making it an easy transition going forward.
- Mr McLane and his colleague will attend the branch in the afternoon to address any concerns regarding the closure of NAB.
- Mr McLane explained that he is primarily in Walgett to support Lisa Wallace and the team in Walgett to deal with closure concerns and help the customers of the NAB.
- Mr McLane reaffirmed that NAB is closing due to the state of the building.
- Mr McLane advised that NAB will consider alternatives when and if they are presented.
- Mr McLane expressed that his understanding is that some alternatives have been presented.
- Mr McLane clarified that it is not the decision of Mr Juergens nor himself on whether the NAB remains open or closes.
- Mr Juergens and Mr McLane are part of the consultation process; however the decision is ultimately made by a Committee in Head Office.

- In relation to a new building, there is a criteria enforced by NAB that must be met on the basis on building standards.
- Mr McLane states the following as viable options; building a new building, moving into an alternate building or relocating to a building that was previously a bank, however explains it depends on whether it meets NAB's building standards and the commercial reality of fitting a new building or building new building.
- Mr McLane stated that the options at present do not meet any of those standards.
- Mr McLane stated that it is high unlikely that there will be a NAB branch past the 2nd of October 2015.
- Mr McLane advised that NAB is still open to options, however at this present time there are no suitable options.
- Mr McLane explained that the floor is falling away and there are huge cracks in the building and the strong room door requires grinding constantly to enable it to close due to the movement in the building.
- Mr McLane stated that a timeline has been given to NAB by an Engineer to vacate the building for the safety of staff and customers of the NAB.
- Mr McLane informed Councillors and the public that discussions with the landlord and NAB's property department have taken place surrounding alternative solutions.
- The decision has been through a consultative process.
- Mr McLane advised that NAB has a property department that handles property issues and they may have looked at the structural report that the landlord has attained.
- Mr Juergens explained that his understanding is that correspondence has occurred between the landlord and the property department.
- Mr McLane reaffirmed that alternatives are required to meet NAB building standards as well as commercial realities in relation to return on equity and return on investment and at present there is no option that meets this criteria.
- Mr McLane explained that there must be a certain level of return on the cost based on fitting out the building.
- Mr McLane informed the public that he is not in a position to comment on any specific buildings at this stage.
- Mr Juergens explained that it his understanding the building located adjacent to NAB - 58 Fox street has been looked at and he is unsure if a final decision has been made.
- Mr Juergens stated that NAB will be committed to working with the post office in Walgett to ensure the service is upheld, however NAB does not necessarily control this, but it is in NAB's best interest to ensure our customers have the most efficient ways to do their banking.
- Mr Juergens expressed his understanding of the inconvenience of travelling an hour and 13 minutes and stated that it is not an ideal solution to get face-to-face service.
- Mr McLane confirmed that NAB is aiming to help as many customers as possible through the transition from now up until the 2nd of October 2015 and NAB's desire is to keep as many customers.
- Mr McLane explained that the next six months revolves around helping customers transition into the banking channels that can help without having a store front and today is about starting that process.
- Mr Juergens stated that NAB would be prepared to consider paying a commercial rate for a building, however NAB would need to reassess the situation, and NAB cannot commit to this at present.
- Mr McLane reaffirmed that it is extremely unlikely the branch will remain open past the 2nd of October 2015, however it is not a definite as there may be a scenario NAB has yet to see.
- Mr McLane stated he believed the lease had been renewed for 12 months prior to.

NAB Representatives address the Public

- Mr Juergens reminded the public that the decision is based on the fact that the building is in disrepair and NAB did not want to pull out of Walgett and the catalyst of this is absolutely the building.
- Mr McLane explained to the public that he will not breach anyone's privacy and is unable to speak of any particular instances in a public forum, however is able to answer to generalised questions.
- Mr McLane advised that Lisa Wallace and the Walgett NAB team are valuable members and they have the option of working at other NAB branches.
- Mr McLane advised that options such as an ATM are being considered however at present are unable to make announcements.
- Mr Juergens advised that information on decisions will follow the course of informing Lisa Wallace and her team first and then I will be rolled out to the community.
- Mr Juergens reiterated to the public that NAB are not using the state of the building to leave Walgett and are using it as a reason to close the branch.
- Mr McLane advised that feedback from the person representing the landlords has been taken on board and will be passed on.
- Mr McLane explained that if they are unable to provide answers today they will ensure they get access to those answers in order to pass on and will work on communicating those answers.
- Mr McLane explained the complexity of day and age banking and how NAB requires Agricultural Business Managers to deal with agricultural business and Retail Business Managers to handle retail banking and NAB operate under a centralised model.
- Mr McLane explained that today's society is moving towards a cashless and chequeless world.
- Mr Juergens reaffirms the reasons for closing the branch; the property is in disrepair and it is not a safe place for NAB staff nor customers to be in past the 2nd of October 2015.
- Mr McLane stated that if the landlord has an option, NAB will consider the option.
- Mr Juergens expressed his understanding surrounding the resitants to do internet and phone banking and NAB respect the decision of those that do not want to utilise internet and phone banking methods.
- Mr Juergens stated that NAB will offer to install computers in the library to assist those without internet facility, which will enable the public to do internet banking.
- Mr Juergens explained that NAB aim educate, support and help the community with their banking needs, and in order to do so NAB as an example will offer to install computers in the local library.
- Mr McLane explained difficulty in exploring the alternatives consider the announcement was yet to be made public, however a couple of options were explored.
- Mr Juergens explained NAB's obligations to inform staff and customers first prior to entering into discussions with business owners in relation to alternatives.
- Mr Juergens advised that it is the individual's decision whether they chose to utilise the public computers.
- Mr Juergens stated that if the building was not in disrepair NAB would maintain the current service and would not need to implement restricted hours.

The meeting adjourned at 10.50am for morning tea

The meeting resumed at 11.07am with all those previously present again present.

Rebecca Cullen discussed the following;

- Mrs Cullen proposes that the overland stormwater from a catchment to the east be diverted around the block at Council's cost via an open dish drain.
- The stormwater channel located on proposed development be filled.
- Mrs Cullen expressed her concerns surrounding the existing stormwater channel that crosses into neighbouring properties.
- Mrs Cullen believes the water will lie regardless due to the flat ground and limited fall in the area.
- Mrs Cullen believes Council should be assisting with the development of the industrial area in Walgett and support the growing area.
- Would rather the water lie around the area then through the businesses.
- Mrs Cullen stated that the drains have only been attended to once in past, that she is aware of.
- Mrs Cullen stated the surrounding businesses are committed to fixing the three culverts.

Cath Deshon representing the Junior Ruby League (Tigers) discussed the following;

- Mrs Deshon expressed her disappointment in relation to a letter informing her of restricted use of the football fields in Lightning Ridge.
- Mrs Deshon believes the scorer fields are not suitable for training due to the limited lighting available.
- Mrs Deshon believes the fields will not be damaged by the children considering it is only for a few hours a week.
- Mrs Deshon stated there is approximately 80 children part of the club and there is no other sport available to these children in Lightning Ridge.
- Mrs Deshon asked for Council to reconsider its decision and allow for the team to utilise the field 2 days a week.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

Clr Lane declared a pecuniary interest in item 3/2015/34 - Walgett Shire Council Landfill Improvement Project: Grant Offer Report from Director Urban Infrastructure Services

Clr Keir declared a pecuniary interest in item 3/2015/26 - Monthly Rural Infrastructure and Support Service Progress report from Director Engineering Services

Confirmation of Minutes

3/2015/1 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 March 2015

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 24 March 2015, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

Mayoral Minutes

3/2015/2 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

Reports of Committees/Delegates

3/2015/3 Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting – 19th of March 2015

Resolved:

That the minutes of the having Consultative Committee meeting held 19th of March 2015 been circulated be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

3/2015/4 Minutes of Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 9th of April 2015

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee meeting held 09 April 2015, having been circulated be received and noted and adopted as resolutions of Council.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Reports from Officers

3/2015/5 Council's Decision Action Report – April

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

3/2015/6 Circulars Received from the Local Government NSW

Resolved:

That the information contained in the weekly circulars numbers 11 – 15 from the Local Government NSW be received and noted.

Moved: **Clr Greenaway**
Seconded: **Clr Cooper**

CARRIED

3/2015/7 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government – April 2015

Resolved:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 15-12 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: **Clr Woodcock**
Seconded: **Clr Cooper**

CARRIED

3/2015/8 Monthly Calendar – April 2015 to June 2015

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period March 2015 to May 2015.

Moved: **Clr Martinez**
Seconded: **Clr Greenaway**

CARRIED

3/2015/09 Local Government Reform Update

Recommendation:

That Council not prepare a “Fit for the Future” submission and adopt the Western Division group of Shires approach.

Moved: **Clr Walford**
Seconded: **Clr Cooper**

CARRIED

3/2015/10 Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to Local Government

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council:

1. Acknowledge the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants programme for the continued delivery of council services and infrastructure.
2. Acknowledge that Council will receive \$5,623,000 in 2014/15 and
3. Will ensure that this federal funding, and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programmes, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in council publications, including the annual report.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

3/2015/11 Drought Relief Employment Schemes

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the General Manager's report, endorse the action being taken, and delegate authority to vary Council's Organisational Structure should the need arise to engage additional staff.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

*Clr Cooper left the meeting at 11.58pm
Clr Cooper returned to the meeting at 12:00pm*

3/2015/12 Consideration - Establishing a Drought Recovery and Resilience Plan for Walgett Shire

Recommendation:

That Council establish a Drought Recovery and Resilience Plan for Walgett Shire through workshop consultation with Councillors and the Community.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

*Clr Keir left the meeting at 12.16 pm
Clr Martinez left the meeting at 12:17pm
Clr Keir returned to the meeting at 12:18pm
Clr Martinez returned to the meeting at 12:19pm*

3/2015/13 Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only

Recommendation:

That the following matters listed for brief mention or information only

Walgett Weir Update

Airport Improvement Grants at Lightning Ridge

Re-introduction of RPT Services in Western NSW – Expressions of Interest

Review of LEMC Approach to Emergency management

Walgett PCYC

Walgett Levee Upgrade

Fire and Rescue NSW

Bureau of Meteorology

LGNSW – Local Water Utilities (LWUS)

Future of National Australia Bank at Walgett

Proposed Reduction of Rates due to the Prolonged Drought

be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

3/2015/14 Future of National Australia Bank

Recommendation:

1. That Council pursue the retention of the National Australia Bank in Walgett

2. That an invitation be extended to the 'Decision Makers' from NAB to meet with the Walgett community.

3. That Council support a petition for retaining the Banking facility and present it to the NAB Board

4. That Council explore whether other Financial Institutions would be interested in establishing in Walgett.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:27pm for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 12:49 pm with all those previously present again present.

3/2015/15 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 31 March 2015

Recommendation:

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

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

3/2015/16 NAB Term Deposits**Recommendation:**

That should the proposed closure proceed Council withdraw NAB Term Deposits as they fall due and advise the National Bank of Australia accordingly.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED**3/2015/17 Quarterly Outstanding Rates Report – March 2015****Recommendation:**

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

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED**3/2015/18 Quarterly Budget Review Statement 2014/15****Recommendation:**

That Council note the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 30th March 2015 and adopt the adjustments/changes indicated within each report respectively and that QBRS be prepared monthly until the end of the financial year.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED**3/2015/19 Manager Community Development Report: January – March 2015****Recommendation:**

That the report for Community Development for January – March 2015 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

3/2015/20 Removal of Four Athol Pine Trees in Gray Park

Recommendation:

1. That Council request a revised quote from A1 Tree Service for the removal of all identified Athol Pine Trees in Gray Park
2. That Council approve the removal of all identified Athol Trees in Gray Park
3. That other suitable tree species be planted to replace the removed trees and irrigation is to be fitted.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

*Clr Walford left the meeting at 1:21pm
Clr Walford returned to the meeting at 1:29pm*

3/2015/21 Water Billing Pricing Structure – Draft Proposal

Recommendation:

This item was moved Clr Greenaway and lapsed through the want of a seconder.

Moved:
Seconded:

*Clr Murray left the meeting at 1:44 pm
Clr Murray returned to the meeting at 1:49 pm*

3/2015/22 Lightning Ridge Racecourse

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

3/2015/23 Development and complying Development Certificate Applications

Note the report on Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with by Council staff under delegated authority for March 2015

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

3/2015/24 Multiple Dwellings and Subdivision on 'Preserved' Opal Fields

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the letter dated 5 March 2015 from NSW Trade and Investment - Crown Lands regarding multiple occupancies and subdivision on the Western Lands Leases 14600 and 10844, and
2. Resolve to respond by letter to NSW Trade and Investment - Crown Lands as per the draft response letter attached to this report.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

3/2015/25 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director of Planning & Regulatory Services

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

Receive and note the report by the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services on matters for brief mention, or information only and endorse the action proposed in item d with regards to the Lightning Ridge IGA premises.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Clr Keir left the Meeting at 2:13pm

3/2015/26 Monthly Rural Infrastructure and Support Service Progress report from Director Engineering Services

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly work progress report for March 2015.
2. That Council approves an additional budget of \$ 56,440 to keep the above mentioned road serviceable level and endorse the action taken to allow works to be undertaken without delay.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

Clr Keir returned to the Meeting at 2:24pm

3/2015/27 Monthly RMCC works Report from Director Engineering Services – March 2015

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the monthly RMCC works report for March 2015.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

3/2015/28 Consultancy services quotation for Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plans (PAMP) and Bike Plans for 2015/2016

Recommendation:

1. That Council notes and accepts the quotation of \$ 15,180 that was submitted by John Evernden based on 50/50 contribution.
2. That Council consider in the 2015/16 draft budget the project and allocate \$15,180

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

3/2015/29 Road Train Route and B Double – Walgett Township

Recommendation:

1. That Council note and accept the recommendation regarding stopping Road Train and B Double traffic from passing through the Fox Street roundabout from west side of Walgett town.
2. That Council make an application to divert the Road Train and B Double vehicles from the intersection of Peel Street and Wee Waa Street.
3. That Council make an application to extend the access route for Road Train and B Double vehicles along Peel Street to Bate Street and then to Fox Street.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

3/2015/30 Amended Capital and Maintenance work Program for 2015/2016

Recommendation:

That Council consider and adopt the revised 2015/2016 Capital and Maintenance Road Work Program

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

3/2015/31 Matters generally for Brief Mention or Information only from director engineering services- March 2015

Recommendation:

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

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

3/2015/32 Revised Watering Times - Use of fixed sprinklers system

Recommendation:

Council resolve to change the watering time to 5:00pm - 7:00pm for the use of fixed sprinkler systems for Walgett Residents under the level 2 water restrictions, leaving other restrictions (Parks & Gardens, Organisations etc) unchanged.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

Questions for the Next Meeting

Clr Taylor

Question 1

Can Council approve for the unused tennis courts in Lightning Ridge to be converted into Community Gardens by the Rotary Club and it be handed over the Transcultural Committee (TCC)?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and report accordingly.

Question 2

Can Council investigate laying gravel around the BBQ and sitting areas in the Lions Park in Lightning Ridge due to the dust in dry weather and mud in wet weather?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and refer for consideration in 2015/16 budget.

Question 3

Can Council install a drain on the opposite side of the Lion Park BBQ to run the excess water off the lawn so it does not run underneath the sitting area?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and refer for consideration in 2015/16 budget.

Question 4

Can Council amend the wording of the 'No dogs' signs (4 signs) in Lions Park to ensure visitors are not turned away?

Response

The Director of Planning and Regulatory Services to investigate and take appropriate action.

Question 5

Can Council investigate the possibility of offering the public the option of sponsoring for trees in Lightning Ridge?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and report accordingly.

Question 6

Can Council assist with the tidying up of the Cenotaphs in Lightning Ridge, Walgett and Grawin next year?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and make appropriate arrangements.

Clr Murray**Question 1**

Can Council investigate the damaged plaques at the Walgett Cemetery (Church of England Section) caused by the Council mower?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and take appropriate action to replace where necessary.

Question 2

What is happening with the fencing around the Walgett Cemetery?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and report accordingly.

Clr Martinez**Question 1**

Can Council provide an expenditure methodology for the maintenance grading of the local roads and where it has been spent to date?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services to investigate and report accordingly.

Question 2

Can Council investigate whether the bore water in Lightning Ridge is causing damage to air conditioners?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and report accordingly.

Question 3

Can Council revise the restrictions placed on the Junior Ruby League Club in relation to training on the football field in Lightning Ridge?

Response

The General Manager advised that he will meet with the Acting Director Urban Infrastructure to discuss the matter and have the situation reassessed.

Question 3

Did Council advertise for the pipe laying from the two bores to the filtration plants?

Response

The General Manager advised that as stated in the minutes of last Council meeting, Council declared the situation as an 'emergency' and sought expressions of interest from selected tender in order to reduce lead-time.

Question 4

Is the installation of the boat ramp in Lightning Ridge running to schedule?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that it is and the team will be removing the old ramp and installing a new ramp.

Clr Walford**Question 1**

Can Council revise the fee for lining the fields being charged to each user?

Response

The General Manager advised that the line fee can be reviewed at the Budget meeting held in May.

Clr Cooper**Question 1**

What is the progress in regards to meeting arrangements with the Minister of Education; Adrian Piccoli?

Response

The General Manager informed Councillors of correspondence with the Ministers Office; of which Council was advised they are yet to appoint a Policy Officer for the Connected Communities Program and until they do so a meeting could not yet be arranged.

Clr Greenaway – Nil**Clr Keir****Question 1**

Can Council investigate whether commercial or public water restrictions apply to the hospital and Kookaburra Court?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and advise accordingly.

Question 2

What is the latest report on Walgett's water supply in relation to drilling a new bore?

Response

The General Manager advised that Council is seeking permission to drill and has acquired the funding to connect the town bore to the water filtration plant.

Question 3

Is council going to install fencing to the weir to provide access?

Response

The General Manager advised that Council has approved a quote for materials and Council will then investigate what sort of access is required.

Question 4

Can Council inspect the suspected broken pipe in the Walgett cemetery causing pools of water?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate and take any necessary action.

Question 5

Can Council utilise the diggings from the Australian Opal Center as a road base?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services advised a cost benefit analysis report will be complied.

Question 6

Can Council address the furnishings in the Council Chambers by replacing the curtains and updating the honour boards?

Response

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the work in finalising the honour boards is continuing and in relation to the curtains, a firm cost estimate will be sought and it will be listed in the draft budget for 2015/16.

Clr Woodcock**Question 1**

Can Council investigate the lane where children walk along located behind the Service Station opposite the Police Station in Lightning Ridge, it requires signage to prevent vehicles speeding up to the line?

Response

The Director of Planning and Regulatory Services to investigate and take any action necessary.

Question 2

Can Council list the project of installing a disabled toilet located at the Visitor Information Center in Lightning Ridge as urgent?

Response

The Director of Corporate Services to investigate and report accordingly.

Question 3

Does Council have funds available to help pay for the wash-down bay at the racecourse in Lightning Ridge?

Response

The General Manager to investigate and report accordingly.

Clr Lane**Question 1**

Can Council inspect Bill O'Brian Way and record the cost of works required in future Council budgets?

Response

The Director of Engineering Services to investigate and take necessary action.

3/2015/33 Move into Closed Session at 2:15pm

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 Walford

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

3/2015/34 Section 713 Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates and Charges Update

Recommendation:

1. That Council resolve a letter be sent to NSW Trade & Investment in relation to unsold property being rate assessment 42366 – Lot 399 DP 1076808 western lands lease 16280 requesting mineral claim 46771 not be renewed due to unpaid rates & charges and copy of this letter be sent to current owner.

2. That Council delegate to the General Manager authority to sell the one (1) remaining properties being Assessment 42366 – Lot 399 DP 1076808 western lands lease 16280 by private treaty in accordance with Section 716 of the Local Government Act 1993, should payment not be forthcoming within two (2) months of letter being sent to NSW Trade & Investment.

3. That the General Manager be delegated authority to complete the required legal documentation associated with the sale of the properties submitted for sale under Section 713 of the Local Government Act 1993 and to affix the Council Seal where required.

Moved: Clr Cooper

Seconded: Clr Martinez

3/2015/35 Development Determination 2014/022 – Rebecca Cullen

Recommendation:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to approve Development Application DA2014/022 by Rebecca Cullen for a commercial shed and subdivision on Lots 1 & 2 DP 718739 subject to conditions of development consent.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Clr Greenaway left the meeting at 4:03pm

Clr Lane left the meeting at 4:04pm and Clr Keir assumed the chair.

Clr Greenaway returned to the meeting at 4:07pm

3/2015/36 Walgett Shire Council Landfill Improvement Project: Grant Offer

Recommendation:

1. That Council endorse the action to accept the grant funding of \$107,600 offered by NSW Environmental Trust and contribute \$41,503.00 in the 2014/2015 budget on a basis of 70:30 ratio for Walgett Shire Council Landfill Improvement Project.
2. That Council endorse the adjustment of the March QBRS to account the grant fund 11.00021.0300 and Council's contribution 21.04804.1518.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

Clr Lane returned to the meeting at 4:10pm and resumed the chair.

3/2015/37 Castlereagh Macquarie County Council – draft 2015/16 Operating Plan and Budget and Accounting Adjustment

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the report in respect of the CMCC draft budget for 2015/16 and also note the action being taken in respect of the accounting treatment of advances made by constituent councils in 2014

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

3/2015/38 Organisational Restructure Update

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the proposed new Organisational Structure based on the attached redistribution of functional activities and the creation of the position of “Chief Financial Officer” and proceed to invite applications for positions of Directors of Engineering/Technical Services and Environmental Services.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Clr Keir left the meeting at 5:05pm

Clr Keir returned to the meeting at 5:09pm

3/2015/39 Capital Work Projects for Consideration for Inclusion in the Draft 2015/16 Budget

Recommendation:

That Council set “high”, “medium” and “low” priorities for the capital projects listed and staff be required to prepare detailed cost estimates before those projects are included in the 2015/16 budget.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

3/2015/40 Return to Open Session at 5:12 pm

Resolved:

That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

3/2015/41 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

Resolved:

That Council adopt the following recommendation of the Closed Committee:

- 1) Section 713 Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates and Charges Update
- 2) Development Determination 2014/022 – Rebecca Cullen
- 3) Walgett Shire Council Landfill Improvement Project: Grant Offer
- 4) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council – draft 2015/16 Operating Plan and Budget and Accounting Adjustment
- 5) Organisational Restructure Update
- 6) Capital Work Projects for Consideration for Inclusion in the Draft 2015/16 Budget

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 5:15 pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on 26 May 2015 in Collarenebri

Mayor

General Manager