



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

15 December 2009

RAY KENT
General Manager

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2009 COMMENCING AT 10:02AM

PRESENT

Clr I Woodcock (Mayor)
Clr Colless (Deputy Mayor)
Clr Martinez
Clr K Smith
Clr L Walford
Clr R Greenaway
Clr D Lane
Clr J Keir
Clr G Murray
Ray Kent (General Manager)
Ms C Medcalf (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)

Apologies

Nil

Welcome to Visitors

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

Public Forum Presentations

Cameron Rowntree – President Walgett Show Society

Mr Rowntree spoke on the following issues with the Showground at Walgett:

- Need to upgrade the facility
- Wool, sheep and cattle pavilions need repair
- Water Hydrant
- PA System needs replacing
- Toilets need upkeep and repair

383/09 Walgett Showground Report

Motion:

That a report on the Walgett Showground and funding options for upgrading be provided at the next Council Meeting.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Rod White – Valuations for rating purposes

Spoke on issues regarding property valuations in the Walgett Shire.

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests

Clr Keir declared a Non Pecuniary interest in item 11 – 2009/2010 Local Heritage Fund Applications

Confirmation of Minutes

384/09 Confirmation of Minutes

Motion:

That the Minutes of Council meeting held 24 November 2009 be confirmed.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Reserve Trust Management Committee Report

Nil

Mayoral Minutes

385/09 Mayoral Minute – Deputation from the Walgett and District Ratepayers Association

Recommendation:

That Council receive a deputation from the Walgett and District Ratepayers Association at the February meeting.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

Motions of which Notice has been given

Councillor Murray

386/09 Program for eradication of Feral Dogs

Motion:

That the Walgett Shire Council write to the North West Livestock Health Protection Authority requesting that they run an eradication program for feral dogs, adjoining the townships of Lightning Ridge, Walgett and the Opal Fields and that Walgett Shire Council will provide support via its Regulatory officer.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

387/09 Water Restrictions

Motion:

That commercial premises and non-automated sprinklers in Public Parks, Sports Fields, Schools & Hospital Grounds water between 7am to Midday.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Councillor Greenaway

388/09 Request for Attorney General to visit Walgett

Motion:

That:

1. The General Manager write to the Attorney General's office & request that the Attorney General visit Walgett to explain the lenient sentences given to the persons, especially juveniles, convicted of crimes.
2. If the Attorney General visits Walgett, he be asked to attend a public meeting.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

Presentation of Petitions

Nil

Councillors Questions with Notice

Councillor Murray

Question 1:

Carinda Tip - Has any remediation work been done recently?

Response:

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that Walgett landfill operator has been asked to clean up the area, but until now he has not been available. The Director expected work to commence shortly. He further advised that we are seeking a service provider who might be available to do minor remediation.

Question 2:

Is there to be a Christmas Party for the staff this year?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services advised that there is a "Christmas Party" type function scheduled for Rural & Urban Infrastructure Staff from 1pm-4pm on Thursday 17 December 2009 at the Walgett Works Depot. (This being the day prior to many staff taking annual leave).

The Director Corporate and Community Services further advised that the Indoor staff have organised a breakfast from 7.00am - 8.30am on the 16th December.

Question 3:

What did the two Shade Cloths at the Burren Bore Baths cost?

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that the shelters cost \$6163.64

Question 4:

When is the Interagency Workshop/Conference being held next year?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised that the next Interagency Meeting is on the 5th January 2010 at 10.00 in the Council Chambers. The agenda will be circulated to Councillors as soon as it is received.

Question 5:

How is the Watering co-ordinated in the Parks, Ovals & Cemeteries in Walgett? Is there an overall Plan?

Response:

The Director Urban Infrastructure advised that there is an overall plan available for viewing.

Reports of Delegates and Representatives

389/09 Camps on Claims Working Group

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the draft minutes of the Camps on Claims Working Group meeting held on 25 November 2009.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

390/09 Namoi Local Government Group Minutes of Meeting

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the draft minutes of the Namoi Local Government Group meeting held on 6th August 2009 and the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 4 December 2008.

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Reservation of items for Debate

Nil

Reports of Officers

391/09 Code of Conduct Committee

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Write to the following people and ask if they will accept re-appointment as Code of Conduct Reviewers:
 - * Mr Don Olney
 - * Ms Catherine Bott
 - * Mr Trent Swinton
 - * Ms Coleen Edgar.

The appointment to take effect from Council's meeting dated 15 December 2009 for a 12 month period.

2. Ensure Code of Conduct training is provided at the earliest opportunity to all Reviewers unfamiliar with Council's Code of Conduct.
3. That the Mayor write to Mrs Shirley Mitchell and thank her for her contribution to Walgett community life over so many years.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

392/09 Draft Tendering Procedures

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the Tendering Procedure with the following amendments to the Threshold requirements:
 - * Goods and services between \$3000 - \$150,000 must be publicly advertised.
 - * Infrastructure between \$3000 - \$150,000 must be publicly advertised.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

Clr Greenaway

What was the cost of the trees that were planted at Rowena and what is happening with the leftover money not expended?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised that she will be having a discussions with Murdi Paaki and the Rowena Community about what happened with the trees.

393/09 Infrastructure design and quoting process

Motion:

That with any future infrastructure money the community groups be involved in the design and quoting process for each of those projects.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

394/09 Tenders for Public Works

Motion:

That the Council investigate the use of an external person or Company to oversee & critically examine Tenders and quotes given to the Shire for Public Works.

Moved: Clr Murray

Motion Withdrawn

395/09 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 30 November 2009

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Receive the cash on hand and Investment report as at 30 November 2009.

Moved: Clr Murray

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

396/09 Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report on the commencement of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

397/09 Community Based Heritage Study Corrections

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to

1. Correct the Report of the Community Based Heritage Study of Walgett Shire as shown in the table below.

PAGE	ITEM No.	ISSUE	CORRECTION
82	26	Property description	Modify to lot 22
84	29	Property description	Modify to lot B, DP 399615
98	37	Property description	Modify to lot 2, DP 215257
108	44	Property description	Modify to lot 1, DP 1083221
145	68	House demolished	Add notation house demolished Sept. 2009 after storm damage.
200	107	Bakery burnt down	Add notation that bakery building burnt down April 2009
283	N/A	Error in Map 1, Rural areas	Delete item 94 from map as it was not included in report
285	N/A	Errors in Map 3, Walgett	Delete items 103 & 60 from map as they were not included in report
			Delete incorrect items 29 & 134
288	N/A	Error in Map 6, Come-by-Chance	Modify to show correct location for item 37

2. Endorse the amended report of the Report of the Community Based Heritage Study of Walgett Shire, dated November 2009, excluding:

- (a) The following items in Recommendation 1 (section 6) which were proposed to listed in the heritage schedule of a Local Environmental Plan (LEP):

- * Item 58, lot 45 DP 546693, Walgett. Reason: Report dated 25 November 2009 by Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christison, recommends that the item not be included as a heritage item within an LEP.
- * Item 68, lot 25 DP 15645, Burren Junction. Reason: Building damaged by storm late in 2008 and has since been demolished.
- * Item 75, unknown lot and DP, near Come-By-Chance. Reason: The property description has not been determined and the statutory requirements for listing cannot be met.
- * Item 76, various lots and DPs, Walgett. Reason: The provisions of Division 7 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 override the effect of listing this as a local heritage item within an LEP.
- * Item 107, lot 3 section 4 DP 769262, Collarenebri. Reason: Walgett Shire Council resolved on 28 July 2009 to remove the item from the draft (LEP) heritage schedule, as per a recommendation by Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christison.

- (b) Recommendation 2 (section 6), proposing that a heritage conservation area be established over the 'preserved' opal fields at Lightning Ridge, Coocoran, Grawin, Carter's, Sheeppark and Glengarry areas.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

398/09 Objection to Proposed Heritage Listing

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the letter dated 29/9/08 from Barry McKenzie objecting to the proposed heritage listing of the former blacksmith's shop.
2. Note the report dated 25 November 2009 on the former blacksmith's shop from Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christison.
3. Remove the 'former blacksmith's shop' located on lot 45, DP 546693, Warrena St, Walgett from the draft local heritage schedule for a Walgett Shire Local Environmental Plan, in accordance with the recommendation of Walgett Shire Council's Heritage Advisor.
4. Write to Barry McKenzie and advise him of Council's resolution.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

399/09 Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Director Planning and Regulatory Services and General Manager during October 2009.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

11.56am Clr Keir left the meeting

400/09 2009/2010 Local Heritage Fund Applications

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Delegate authority to the General Manager to approve the allocation of funds from the Walgett Shire Council Local Heritage Fund 2009-2010, after considering the advice received from Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christison.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

11.57am Clr Keir returned to the Meeting

401/09 Additional Water Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Approve the procurement and installation of water meters at Carinda, to be funded from the Walgett Water Fund Reserve.
2. Approve the telemetry procurement and installation of standpipes at Walgett and Cumborah, to be funded from the Walgett Water Fund Reserve.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

12.02pm Clr Walford left the meeting.
12:06pm Clr Walford returned to the meeting

402/09 Strategic Plant Replacement Program 2010-2024

Motion:

That Council:

1. Adopt the Strategic Plan Replacement Program 2010 -2024
2. Approve the procurement of plant identified to be replaced in accordance with council's procurement policy and procedures; and
3. Review the plan by June 2010.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

Questions without Notice

Clr Murray

Question 1:

Economic Development Officer – Does anyone cover that position?

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that this position was advertised 18 months ago and Council was not able to attract a suitable applicant. She further advised that the position was not seen to be important at the time, so was not readvertised. The responsibility is currently shared across a few other positions.

Clr Keir

Clr Keir represented Council at the Barwon group medical scholarship. A certificate of appreciation was presented to Walgett Shire Council.

Clr Keir advised that she recently attended an Outback Arts Meeting. There were some issues raised regarding communication and visits to Walgett and Outback Arts have decided to make a few changes. They have recently appointed a new Regional Art Development Officer.

Clr Greenaway

Question:

What job is Emma Darcy doing for council at the moment?

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that Mrs Darcy is currently completing Council's procedures and in the New Year she will commence on Council's Land Register.

Question:

Are we going to continue to employ her in one job after another?

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that if Mrs Darcy has the capacity to meet the statutory requirements and if no other staff member has the capacity to do so, then she will be asked to complete other jobs required.

Question:

What is happening with the selling of the council housing and the units?

Response:

The General Manager advised that the strata titles are being prepared and that it is still some time before we will have the titles.

Question:

Walgett is 150 years old. Is the Council going to do anything?

Response:

The General Manager advised that October was the 150th Anniversary of the town being surveyed. A display to celebrate the occasion was mounted by the Historical Society.

12:35pm Clr Greenaway left the meeting

12:37pm Clr Greenaway returned to the Meeting

Clr Colless

Question:

In relation to Coolibah kids, there was a report or discussion to be brought back to this meeting. What is happening with this?

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that Council is yet to consult with Coolibah kids in relation to this matter and it is not expected to occur until next year.

Question:

Can Council still offer Coolibah Kids the house?

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that Council will wait until next year when a report will be presented to Council.

Question:

What has happened with the Amenities block at the Walgett tip?

Response:

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that he is still looking into this matter.

Question:

There was an incident involving staff of the Lightning Ridge Caravan Park.

Response:

The Director Corporate & Community Services advised that she will speak with the Councillor after the meeting in relation to this matter.

Question:

What is happening with the beautification of the main street?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised that the consultants were in town last week and presented their findings at a public meeting. There were a few negative discussions but overall the feedback received was good. She further advised that the consultants will now go back and prepare a discussion paper which should be available this week or early next week and will be available until January 14th.

Question:

Are we outlaying anymore money for these consultants?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised no it is all included in the fee.

Question:

Is Coolibah Kids holding a license at this stage?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised that as far as she knows yes

Clr Smith

Question:

Are we having an opening for the airstrip?

Response:

The General Manager advised yes, it will be held in the New Year and will involve representatives of Federal Government, Royal Flying Doctor's Service and Air Ambulance. He further advised that the Director Urban Infrastructure Services will be organising this.

Question:

At the orientation there were questions asked about Uniforms?

Response:

The General Manager advised that Council has a uniform policy and clothes vary in colour.

12:52pm adjourned for lunch

2:07pm returned from Lunch

403/09 Move into Closed Session

Motion:

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Section 10 A (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

404/09 Proposed Tenders for Walgett and Collarenebri Swimming Pools

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolves to:

1. Approve the term of the tender for the operational management of Walgett and Collarenebri Swimming Pools for a period of three years.
2. In principle approve training staff and/or local interested residents in AQF level certificates for aquatic management as part of a long-term strategic plan of managing swimming pools.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

405/09 Contracts for the Supply and Delivery of Bulk Chemicals – Regional Procurement Tender T20910OROC

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Award the relevant supplier for each Schedule (as listed in the Regional Procurement Tender Assessment) the tender as the single source supplier to participating OROC member councils for the period 1st October 2009 to 30th September 2011
2. Make provision for a 12 month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance which may take this tender through to 2012.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

406/09 Contract for the Supply and Delivery of Reservoir Cleaning and Maintenance – Regional Procurement Tender T10910OROC

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Award all tenders as a Panel source from 1st December 2009 to 31st December 2011 as per recommendation of the Orana Region of Councils Regional Procurement evaluation report for Tender T10910OROC.
2. Make provision for a 12 month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance which may take this tender through to 2012.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

407/09 Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the report.
2. Consider funding Walgett Sewerage Treatment Plant and Walgett Water Treatment Plant refurbishments in 2010-11 budget.

Moved: Clr Smith

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

408/09 Contract E09001 – Replacement of Six Bridges – ICOM Pty Ltd

Motion:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Note the Icom Pty Ltd's withdrawal from Contract E09001 Replacement of Six Bridges in Walgett Shire.
2. Readvertise the tenders for the contract.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

A minute was provided to Councillors regarding the status of three Tenders:

- Proposed Diving Pool Heating – Lightning Ridge
- Proposed Toilet Block Construction - Lightning Ridge
- Proposed Water Tower Construction – Rowena Village

409/09 Rowena Village Water Tower Construction Tender

Motion:

1. The Tender submitted for the proposed water tower construction – Rowena Village be accepted.
2. The budget for the Water Tower Construction be increased by \$9,650.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Colless

CARRIED

410/09 Move into open Session	
Motion:	
That Council return to open session.	
Moved:	Clr Walford
Seconded:	Clr Lane
CARRIED	

The meeting closed at 3.12pm

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 23rd February 2010.

Mayor

General Manager