



MINUTES FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

24th September, 2013

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Ordinary Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council was held at the **Rowena Hall**, on **24 September 2013** commencing at 10:13 am to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

ADOPTED:

Don Ramsland
GENERAL MANAGER

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

What is a "Conflict of Interests" – A conflict of interests can be two types:

Pecuniary – an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

Non-Pecuniary – a private or personal interest that a Council official has that does not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in the Local Government Act (eg. A friendship, membership of an association, society or trade union or involvement or interest in an activity and may include an interest of a financial nature.)

Remoteness

A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to a matter or if the interest is of a kind specified in Section 448 of the Local Government Act.

Who has a Pecuniary Interest? – A person has a pecuniary interest in a matter if the pecuniary interest is the interest of:

- The person, or
- Another person with whom the person is associated (see below)

Relatives, Partners

A person is taken to have a pecuniary interest in a matter if:

- The person's spouse or de facto partner or a relative of the person has a pecuniary interest in the matter, or
- The person, or a nominee, partner or employer of the person, is a member of a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter

N.B. "Relative", in relation to a person means any of the following:

- (a) The parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descends or adopted child of the person or of the person's spouse.
- (b) The spouse or de facto partners of the person or of a person referred to in paragraph (a)

No Interest in the Matter

However, a person is not taken to have a pecuniary interest in a matter:

- If the person is unaware of the relevant pecuniary interest of the spouse, de facto partner, relative or company of other body, or
- Just because the person is a member of, or is employed by, the Council
- Just because the person is a member of, or a delegate of the Council to, a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter provided that the person has no beneficial interest in any shares of the company or body.

Disclosure and participation in meetings

- A Councillor or a member of a Council Committee who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the Council is concerned and who is present at a meeting of the Council or Committee at which the matter is being considered must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.
- The Councillor or member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the Council or Committee:
 - (a) At any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the Council or Committee, or
 - (b) At any time during which the Council or Committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

No Knowledge – A person does not breach this Clause if the person did not know and could not reasonably be expected to have known that the matter under consideration at the meeting was a matter in which he or she had a pecuniary interest.

Participation in Meetings despite Pecuniary Interest (S452 Act)

A Councillor is not prevented from taking part in the consideration or discussion of, or from voting on, any of the matters/questions detailed in Section 452 of the Local Government Act.

Non-Pecuniary Interest – Must be disclosed in meetings.

There are a broad range of options available for managing conflicts & the option chosen will depend on an assessment of the circumstances of the matter, the nature of the interest and the significance of the issue being dealt with. Non-Pecuniary conflicts of interest must be dealt with in at least one of the following ways:

- It may be appropriate that no action be taken where the potential for conflict is minimal. However, Councillors should consider providing an explanation of why they consider a conflict does not exist.
- Limit involvement if practical (eg. Participate in discussion but not in decision making or vice versa). Care needs to be taken when exercising this option.
- Remove the source of the conflict (eg. Relinquishing or divesting the personal interest that creates the conflict)
- Have no involvement by absenting yourself from and not taking part in any debate or voting on the issue as if the provisions in S451 of the Local Government Act apply (particularly if you have a significant non-pecuniary interest)

Disclosure to be Recorded (S453 Act)

A disclosure (and the reason/s for the disclosure) made at a meeting of the Council or Council Committee or Sub-Committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT ROWENA HALL ON TUESDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2013 AT 10:13 AM

PRESENT

Clr B Murray (Mayor)
Clr D Cooper
Clr R Greenaway
Clr J Keir
Clr D Lane
Clr M Martinez
Clr L Walford
Clr M Taylor
Don Ramsland (General Manager)
Stephen Holland (Director Corporate Services)
Andrew Wilson (Acting Director Planning & Regulatory Services)
Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)
Victoria Renshaw (Minute Secretary)

Welcome to Visitors

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

9/2013/1 APOLOGIES – 25th September 2013

Resolved:

That apologies received from Clr Woodcock be accepted and leave of absence granted.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

Public Forum Presentations

Mr Peter Scoles discussed the following;

- There are issues at the Lightning Ridge Racetrack that will stop the race meet.
- Include water system, pump site on track.
- Mr Scoles tabled a letter received from the racing stewards advising that race meet cannot go ahead if issues are not fixed.
- Flood work done on Sherman's Way Road at Lightning Ridge have made the road worse than it originally was. There are a number of large rocks on the road.
- This is dangerous, especially because a lot of tourists and school buses use this road.
- Noted that Council truck was in Lightning Ridge yesterday and could have been used to do some work fixing the road.
- Mr Scoles expressed concern that a letter was sent to Mineral Resources by Council in February 2013 asking for a private agreement to stop mining in buffer zones.
- This letter affects miners and camps on claims. There needs to be more liaison between Council and the local mining fraternities.

Mr Col Hundy discussed the following;

- Mr Lundy noted that he is aware of the letter Councillor Lane sent to Kevin Humphries, the mining community is in support of Council's opposition to letter.
- He would like what was done to be overturned.
- Suggested that Council asking for a meeting with the Minister of Planning or the NSW Premier to discuss.
- Noted that there have been complaints made by local people about Council's Planning & Regulatory Department.
- There is difficulty in the application of planning guidelines/regulations that are being made in Sydney in our rural Shire.
- These guidelines should change in areas with camps on claims.
- Requested the General Manager direct the Planning & Regulatory Department to understand the needs of the local community more.

After discussion on the issue of buffer zones and the LEP Cllr Lane moved the following motion;

9/2013/2 Request to move buffer zone

Resolved:

1. That Council write to the Mineral Resources Unity of NSW Trade & Investment requesting that mineral claims are not granted;
 - within 50 metres of the centreline of the Castlereagh Highway or the road corridor, whichever is greater; and
 - within 20 metres of the centreline of any other public road (regional road or shire road) or the road corridor, whichever is greater.

Moved: Cllr Lane

Seconded: Cllr Walford

CARRIED

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Martinez declared a Pecuniary Interest in item 26 - Monthly Flood works report from Director Engineering Services as his family is currently operating contract plant.

Cllr Keir declared a Pecuniary Interest in item 26 - Monthly Flood works report from Director Engineering Services as her family is currently operating contract plant.

Cllr Greenaway declared a Pecuniary Interest in item 26 - Monthly Flood works report from Director Engineering Services as his family is currently operating contract plant.

Election of Mayor & Deputy Mayor

9/2013/3 Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Resolved:

1. That Council adopt the ordinary ballot method for the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

The General Manager then assumed the Chair as Returning Officer to conduct the Mayoral Elections for 2013/2014.

9/2013/4 Election of Mayor for Ensuring Twelve (12) Months

There being only one nomination for the position of Mayor, that of Clr G.A. Murray, the Returning Officer declared Clr G.A. Murray elected as Mayor for the 2013/2014 term of office.

9/2013/5 Election of Deputy Mayor for Ensuring Twelve (12) Months

There being only one nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor, that of Clr D. Lane, the Returning Officer declared Clr D. Lane elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2013/2014 term of office.

Clr G.A. Murray then assumed the Chair as the newly elected Mayor for 2013/2014.

Confirmation of Minutes

9/2013/6 Minutes of Council meeting –27th August 2013

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Council meeting held 27 August 2013, have been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting, subject to the additional notation that the tennis courts at Lightning Ridge were in need of repair.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

9/2013/7 Minutes of Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting 12 September 2013

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting held 12 September 2013 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooper

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Mayoral Minutes

9/2013/8 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Mayor

Resolved:

1. That the Matters listed by the Mayor for brief mention or information only be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

Councillors Questions From Last Meeting

Clr Greenaway

Question 1

The Collarenebri School has built a roof over the two tennis courts in High Street. Water from the roof is being let run over the block. Shouldn't this water be drained into the street gutter instead.

Response

The Acting Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that a COLA was approved for the NSW Public Works via a DA issued by Council on 1 May 2013. The applicant has proposed a stormwater harvesting plan, of which a "to be constructed" amenities building on the adjoining lot is an integral part. In conjunction with kerb & gutter works which are currently being organised with Council's Urban Engineers, the stormwater management system should be sound.

Question 2

Do the Council have any control over the opening in the fence in Wilson Street, Collarenebri? The fence has not been replaced since fire burnt down the nearby building.

Response

The Acting Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that as this is not a public safety issue an order cannot be sent to the landowner. Council is to write to the landowner to prompt them to replace the fence.

Question 3

What is the progress of repairs at the Collarenebri agency house?

Response

The General Manager advised that the property must first be made secure. Council is currently working on tidying up the yard and broken fibro downstairs. Access to the front and back needs to be done by repairing the stairs and doors. The house needs a good clean and appliances repaired. The General Manager has noted that the air conditioner has been replaced. Council will undertake some of the work, the rest Council will call Expressions of Interest. The house will then be in a position to lease/sell.

Clr Cooper

Question 1

The alleyway near IGA is full of rubbish. Can this be investigated?

Response

The Acting Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that the IGA are currently experiencing waste collection issues, and have sourced a bin with a lid as an interim solution. They are currently arranging with the waste management contractor to remove additional waste. Council's Planning & Regulatory staff will review the site regularly.

Clr Keir

Question 1

Have Council acknowledged letter received from the Walgett Historical Society regarding repairs to old Council Chambers and other matters?

Response

The General Manager advised that a letter has been drafted. The Director Corporate Services is to draft a pro forma letter we can send out after receiving correspondence to acknowledge receipt.

Question 2

Will Council have the shade shelter erected at the Walgett pool prior to the swimming season?

Response

The General Manager advised that the smaller shade has been repaired and a larger shade has been purchased. Council is currently investigating whether existing shelter poles need to be replaced or not.

Question 4

What is happening regarding the renewal of the Sporting Club lease?

Response

The General Manager advised that a new lease has not yet been signed, in the interim period the previous lease will continue to operate. New lease to be signed when Mr Duncan returns from overseas.

Clr Martinez

Question 1

The lane marking and pot holes on Morilla Street need attention.

Response

The Director Engineering Services advises that an inspection has been completed and scheduling is in progress.

Question 2

How is the Beautification Program going?

Response

The General Manager advised that this program is underway. Plan is to do Collarenebri main street, then Walgett and lastly Lightning Ridge. Council is to inform communities of the project. The new concrete gang is to do the work.

Clr Lane

Question 1

Have the Lightning Ridge Library opening hours decreased?

Response

The Director Corporate Services advised that the Lightning Ridge opening hours have remained unchanged for the past 4 years.

Question 2

Glen Peterson, a graduate town planner recently enquired about undertaking work experience with Council and was told that we do not provide work experience. Can this be investigated?

Response

The General Manager advised that this approach was made quite some time ago. Whilst we endeavour to provide work opportunities whenever possible, there is a limit to the amount of time our professional staff can take away from their regular duties to provide such supervision.

Clr Walford

Question 1

Why wasn't a burst pipe near the IGA fixed until the next day?

Response

The General Manager advises that the work was undertaken as soon as parts were available and to minimise disruption to local consumers.

Clr Taylor

Question 1

Is the Lightning Ridge tip going to be extended out another 10 metres?

Response

The General Manager advises he is unaware of any proposal to extend the Lightning Ridge Waste Management Facility, however, planning is underway to prepare a site management plan.

Question 2

What is happening with the water connections to the camps?

Response

The General Manager advises that this matter was discussed in detail at the July 2013 Council Meeting.

Question 3

Can the rough areas and gravel issues in the road extension near the bore baths be investigated?

Response

General Manager has referred this matter to the Director Engineering Services.

Question 4

When can the tree planting program commence? Can a letter be written to the Health Department enquiring if there are issues with watering trees outside their office?

Response

The General Manager has requested details of proposed tree plantings at Lightning Ridge and will contact the Health Department with request for tree watering.

Question 5

Stewarts have advised that the Lightning Ridge Race Club needs improvements, a race meeting may not take place this year if improvements are not made.

Response

The General Manager advised that the race track issue has recently been investigated by Council and costing for improvements is being undertaken.

Question 6

What is happening with the Lightning Ridge tourism committee?

Response

General Manager advised that Council is currently revising shire tourism strategies. General Manager to liaise with Lightning Ridge tourism committee once drafted.

Question 7

Both Bins at Belmore Park are full and need to be emptied.

Response

General Manager has directed Council staff to empty bins.

Question 8

Can the three outdoor cold water showers at the Lightning Ridge bore baths be connected to hot water from the bore head? Also water is slow to drain from the bathroom and showers are unclean.

Response

General Manager has requested a costing for upgrade of outdoor showers as there could be a problem with bore water temperatures. Drainage is being investigated as a maintenance issue.

Reports of Officers

9/2013/9 Minutes of Health & Safety Committee Meeting – 5 September 2013

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 5 September 2013, have been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

9/2013/10 COUNCIL DECISIONS ACTION REPORT – AUGUST 2013

Resolved:

1. That the Resolution Register for August 2013 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

9/2013/11 Circulars Received from the Local Government NSW

Resolved:

1. That the information contained in the weekly circulars numbers 34-37 from the Local Government NSW be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooper

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

9/2013/12 Circulars Received from the Division of Local Government – September 2013

Resolved:

1. That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 13-38 to 13-40 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

9/2013/13 Monthly Calendar – September to November 2013

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period September 2013 to November 2013.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

9/2013/14 Fees for Mayor and Councillors 2013/2014

Resolved:

That:

1. 25% of the Mayoral fee be allocated to the Councillor who occupies the position of Deputy Mayor

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

9/2013/15 Closedown of Administration over Festive Season

Resolved:

1. Council operations close for the three days Friday 27th to Tuesday 31st inclusive and the General Manager make satisfactory arrangements for the maintenance of essential services and provision of emergency call out services.
2. The closedown be effectively notified to residents along with details of essential service and emergency call out arrangements.
3. Note the Outdoor Staff shutdown period from Friday 20 December, 2013 to Monday 13 January 2014.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Keir

9/2013/16 Ordinary Council meetings – Dates and Venues for 2014

Resolved:

1. That the schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings for 2014 be outlined as follows:
12th February – Walgett
25th March – Lightning Ridge
22nd April – Collarenebri
27th May – Walgett
24th June – Walgett

22nd July – Rowena
26th August – Walgett
23rd September – Carinda
28th October – Walgett
25th November – Burren Junction
16th December - Walgett

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

9/2013/17 Delegates and Representatives to, and members of External bodies

Resolved:

1. That members, representatives and delegates for 2013/2014 be as outlined in the attached schedule "1".

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2013/18 Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only – General Manager

Resolved:

That the General Manager's Report on matters for brief mention or information only be received and noted:

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

9/2013/19 Proposed Legal Access to Walgett Weir

Resolved:

1. That the Mayor, Councillor Cooper and General Manager be given delegated authority to meet with key stakeholders with a view to negotiating an appropriate outcome.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

9/2013/20 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 31 August 2013

Resolved:

1. That the cash on hand and investment report as at 31 August 2013 be received.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2013/21 Murcutt Model – Proposed Lightning Ridge Community Centre

Resolved:

1. That the Council write to the Mitchell Library to ascertain their interest in having the 'Murcutt Community Centre model donated to the library for their Murcutt collection.
2. That should the Mitchell Library confirm their interest that the General Manager be delegated authority to make the necessary arrangements for the transfer of ownership of the Murcutt model to the Mitchell Library.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

9/2013/22 Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only – Director Corporate Services

Resolved:

Council Elections

That: pursuant to sec 296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council and;

Further that pursuant to sec 286(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as applied and modified by sec 18, a Council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all polls of the Council and;

Further that pursuant to sec 296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, as applied and modified by sec 18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of the Council.

Shire Libraries

That: the information be noted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

9/2013/23 Walgett Shire Council Local Approvals Policy

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Adopt the publicly exhibited Walgett Shire Council Local Approvals Policy.
2. In accordance with section 162 of the Local Government Act 1993, write to the Director General of the Division of Local Government seeking approval for part of the Walgett Shire Council Local Approvals Policy relating to exemptions from the necessity to obtain approval.
3. If the Director General of the Division of Local Government approves the exemption provisions, then give public notice that Council has adopted the Walgett Shire Council Local Approvals Policy 2013.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

9/2013/24 Order regarding Khans IGA Supermarket

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to note:

1. The order issued under section 121B of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 on 28 August 2013 to Dunpec Pty Ltd which requires an engineering assessment of the structural integrity of the Khan's IGA supermarket building at 34 Opal Street, Lightning Ridge (lot 33, DP 752756).
2. Pending compliance with the order, Council staff will continue to monitor the condition of the building.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

**9/2013/25 Monthly RMCC works Report from Director Engineering Services –
September 2013**

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and note the monthly RMCC works report for September 2013.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

Stephen Holland left the meeting at 11:49am.
Stephen Holland returned to the meeting at 11:51am.

Clrs Martinez, Keir and Greenaway declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and left the meeting at 11:52am.

9/2013/26 Monthly flood works Report from Director Engineering Services

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and note the monthly flood restoration works report for September 2013.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Clrs Martinez, Keir and Greenaway returned to the meeting at 11:58am.

9/2013/27 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Engineering Services – September 2013

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

9/2013/28 Grain Harvest Management Scheme 2013/2014 – September Report

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and note the attached correspondence and provide Transport for NSW with written confirmation that it wishes to participate in the NSW Grain Harvest Management Scheme 2013/2014.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

Questions for the next Meeting

Clr Martinez

Question 1

What is happening with work regarding Sherman's Way?

Response

The General Manager advised that he has requested Council's engineer to prepare a report. The General Manager and Clr Woodcock inspected the road last Friday and General Manager notes that he was surprised at the type of gravel used on the road. The General Manager advised that a decision was previously made by Council to not seal the road. The report to be prepared will include a costing and funds will be utilised from the current maintenance budget, resulting in a delay on other projects. The General Manager is to circulate the draft report to Councillors once prepared.

Question 2

The Lightning Ridge netball competition plays in the evening and there is a lack of lightning available to the courts. Can this be addressed?

Response

The Director Corporate Services advised that there is a light from the soccer fields that can be turned around but it does not give enough light. Suggestion that for this season the lightning tower is used until a more permanent solution is available.

Clr Lane

Question 1

What will be the solution regarding the Lightning Ridge Racetrack?

Response

The General Manager advised that he had recently been to inspect the racetrack with Clr Woodcock. Noted that the following issues need to be addressed;

- Pipe running across track halfway up the straight
- Running rail near the finish line needs to be curved and extended
- Trees on bend and near new pump station to be removed
- Sprinkler and control box on track need to be relocated

The General Manager advised that the Director Urban Infrastructure has been away causing a delay in work. The trees near the pump station have been removed. Funds for this will come out of Council's maintenance fund where available. However, additional costs may need to be covered from Race Course Development Grants or other Sport and Recreation grants. The race club has indicated it would contribute about \$15,000.

Question 2

What is the process for putting a motion to Council to write to the Minister regarding the LEP?

Response

The General Manager advised Clr Lane should draft a notice of motion to Council, to be listed at the next Council meeting. Clr Lane is to draft the notice. The General Manager noted that at the August 2013 Council Meeting the Regional Director of Planning was requested to investigate, he is yet come back to Council with a response.

Clr Taylor

Question 1

After the recent storm in Lightning Ridge the caretaker of the race club advised that the tree leaning over the race club and over the care takers residence have suffered damage. Can these be cut down?

Response

The Director Urban Infrastructure to investigate.

Question 2

Houses adjacent to the Lightning Ridge Diving Complex are experiencing dust from passing traffic. Can a bitumen sideway be layed?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 3

The presentation of Lyons Park in Lightning Ridge is tatty. There are approximately 100/200 to pine logs that are rotting and/or falling down. Can they be replaced?

Response

The General Manager advised that issues such as this need to be costed and added to the annual budget. This should not be done halfway through the year and the correct process needs to be followed. The General Manager will see if an interim solution can be made.

Question 4

There is a pot hole in Pandora Street Lightning Ridge near Khans IGA. Can this be investigated?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Clr Greenaway

Question 1

Can a sign be placed in Collarenebri at the intersection of Wilson and Herbert Streets to indicate where the primitive camping ground is?

Response

The Director Engineering Services is to refer matter to the next traffic control meeting for consideration.

Question 2

Funds were allocated towards improving roads in Collarenebri. When will this work commence?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 3

There are funds available to be spent improving Shire Road #11. Will funds be spent on improving the low level crossing?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 4

There are gaps in doorways of the Rowena Hall. Can they be fixed?

Response

The Director Urban Infrastructure to investigate.

Clr Keir

Question 1

The General Manager circulated a copy of the NSW Health Plan recently and responses to be received by 30 September. There are shortcomings in the plan; can a response be formulated addressing these shortcomings?

Response

The General Manager and Clr Keir to liaise regarding a response.

Question 2

Can Council have a liaison officer available to assist people when completing Development Applications?

Response

The General Manager advised that the Economic Development Officer could assist. Another option could be that a private consultant is available to the applicant at Council's cost.

Clr Cooper

Question 1

What is happening with the pool work and shade structures?

Response

The Director Corporate Services advised that a tentative completion date has been set for November. The 30 metre shade structure is currently being repaired. The Walgett Pool will open on 1 October and the Collarenebri Pool will open 1 week after, as work is still being done on chlorine equipment and fibre glassing issues.

Clr Walford

Question 1

Youth Suicide is on the increase in the area, as is Domestic Violence.

Response

Noted.

Question 2

After the Knockout last weekend it was noted that there were not enough toilets or shade for the crowd. An amplifier also had to be plugged in to power points located in the shower room with leads running through water.

Response

The General Manager advises that initially when Knockout started the committee were also going to contribute towards costs, but to date no contributions have been made. Council have not been approached to provide additional toilets, committee could hire additional services if needed. In regards to shade there are a number of local organisations that may be able to provide shade marquees. General Manager will investigate issues with access to power. The General Manager congratulated the indigenous community for the event running smoothly.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1:42pm with all those previously present again present.

9/2013/29 Move into Closed Session At 1:42PM

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:

- (c) 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)
- (d) 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

9/2013/30 Panel of Code of Conduct Reviewers – Council’s Code of Conduct

Resolved:

1. That the persons listed in Schedule “2”, as attached to this report, be appointed as members to Walgett Shire Council Panel of Conduct Reviewers and/or act as sole reviewers.

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

9/2013/31 External Audit 2013-2019

Resolved:

1. That the tender from Luka Group for the provision of external audit services for the six (6) year period 2013-2019 be accepted.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

9/2013/32 Return to Open Session at 2:08pm

Resolved:

1. That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

9/2013/33 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

Resolved:

That Council adopt the following recommendation of the Closed Committee:

- 1) Panel of Code of Conduct Reviewers – Council's Code of Conduct
- 2) External Audit 2013-2019

Moved: Cllr Walford

Seconded: Cllr Greenaway

CARRIED

See attached schedules;

Schedule 1 – List of Council Delegates 2013/2014.

Schedule 2 – Panel Members for Code of Conduct Review Panel.

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 2:11pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 22nd October at Walgett.

Mayor

General Manager