



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

12 May 2009

RAY KENT
General Manager

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 12 MAY 2009 COMMENCING AT 10:18 am

PRESENT

Clr I Woodcock (Mayor)
Clr G Colless (Deputy Mayor)
Clr R Greenaway
Clr J Keir
Clr M Martinez
Clr K Smith
Clr L Walford
Clr G Murray
Mr R Kent (General Manager)
Ms C Medcalf (Director Corporate & Community Services)
Mr M Goodwin (Director, Planning and Regulatory Services)
Mr I Taylor (Director, Rural Infrastructure & Support Services)
Mr F Corelde (Director, Urban Infrastructure Services)
Miss J Gates (Minute Secretary)

Apologies

The Mayor lodged an apology on behalf of Councillor Lane who was unable to attend the meeting because of work commitments.

Public Forum Presentations

Mr Jack Baker – Walgett Ratepayers Association

Mr Jack Baker raised concerns regarding the below items:

- April Meeting Resolution 96/09 – sought clarification as to whether staff in Council dwellings had responsibility pursuant to lease to maintain property
- Fees and Charges for Counter enquiries – definition sought
- Responsibility for setting rates
- The size of the projected Budget surplus

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests

Nil

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

127/09 Confirmation of Minutes

Motion:

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held 28 April 2009 be confirmed.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Smith

AMENDMENT

1. That the minutes of the Council Meeting held 28 April 2009 be confirmed with the following amendments.

a. That the notes relating to resolution 115/09 Walgett District Historical Society be altered to include the following:

Ensure there are two separate leases for the Historical Society, one for the Old Council Chambers and one for the Masonic Lodge.

b. That resolution 97/09 letter to Greater Western Area Health Service be altered to read as follows:

That Council write a letter to the Health Manager of the Greater Western Area Health Service (GWAHS), with a copy to the Minister for Health, and the General Manager of GWAHS expressing Council's concern at the state of the grounds of the Walgett Hospital.

Moved: Clr Keir

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

10:25am Director Fred Coralde entered the meeting

Reserve Trust Management Committee Reports

Nil

Mayoral Minutes

Nil

Motions of which Notice has been given

Nil

Presentation of Petitions

Nil

Councillors Questions with Notice

Nil

Reports of Delegates and Representatives

Nil

Reservation of items for Debate

Nil

Reports of Officers

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

128/09 2009/2010 Fees and Charges

Motion:

That the proposed Fees and Charges 2009/2010, as listed in the attached schedule, be approved for inclusion in the Draft Management Plan 2009/2010 - 2013/2014 for public exhibition, with Council reserving the right to vary fees and charges of a commercial nature as circumstances require.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Keir

AMENDMENT

1. That the proposed Fees and Charges 2009/2010, as listed in the attached schedule, be approved for inclusion in the Draft Management Plan 2009/2010 - 2013/2014 for public exhibition, with Council reserving the right to vary fees and charges of a commercial nature as circumstances require and to include the following amendments

- * Delete Counter enquiries
- * Under "Burial – Monumental Section" include Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri
- * Under "Burial Monumental Section" Burren Junction, Cumborah and Carinda include Angledool
- * Fee for chairs and tables for the Showground be amended as follows: Chairs \$1 and Tables \$5
- * Under Construction and Complying Development Certificates include the Development Application fees
- * Under "Engineering – Showground" include the user fee for the hire of the showground
- * Remove all fees and charges relating to the Lightning Ridge swimming pool

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

- 11:16am Clr Walford left the meeting
11:21am Clr Walford returned to the meeting

11:26am Clr Colless left the meeting
11:30am Clr Colless returned to the meeting

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

129/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: CCTV Project – Heating of Lightning Ridge Diving Pool

Resolution:

That the CCTV project (\$150,000) not be funded for Lightning Ridge and that the monies be reallocated to the heating of the Lightning Ridge Diving Pool and that the money be expended in the 2009/2010 financial year.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

130/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Cumborah Meeting Room

Resolution:

That \$60,000 be allocated to build a meeting room at Cumborah.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

12:26 The Mayor vacated the chair and the Deputy Mayor assumed the role of chairperson.

12:27pm The Mayor returned to the meeting and assumed the role of chairperson.

131/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Sealing of Main Street at Come-By-Chance

Resolution:

That \$65,000 be allocated to the sealing of the main street at Come-By-Chance.

Moved: Clr Keir
Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

132/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Sealing of street near Collarenebri Hospital

Resolution:

That \$40,000 of the reseal budget be provided for the resealing of the road in front of the Collarenebri hospital/ambulance station.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

12:40pm Adjourned for lunch

1:14pm Returned from lunch

133/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Burren Junction Bore Baths

Resolution:

That a portion of the \$52,000 allocated from the Regional Infrastructure Program be used for shading for the Burren Junction Bore Baths.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Walford

CARRIED

1:17pm Clr Keir returned to the meeting from the lunch break

134/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010

Motion:

That the first ten items of the New Expenditure Proposal Schedule (Operational General Fund) be allocated the funds as set out in the Schedule.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Walford

MOTION WITHDRAWN

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

135/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Fishing Competition for Collarenebri

Resolution:

That the proposed funds for the Collarenebri Fishing Competition be removed from the New Expenditure Proposal Schedule.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

136/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Community Centre for Lightning Ridge

Resolution:

That the funds allocated for the Community Centre for Lightning Ridge be removed from the new expenditure proposal schedule.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Murray

CARRIED

137/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Lightning Ridge Opal Queen and the Opal Jewellery Design Awards

Resolution:

That the funds for the Lightning Ridge Opal Queen and the Opal Jewellery Design Awards be included in future baseline budgets.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

138/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Lighting and Springboards for the Lightning Ridge Diving Pool

Resolution:

That the \$82,000 allocated for lighting for the Lightning Ridge Diving Pool be removed and that \$82,000 be allocated for Springboards for the Diving pool.

Moved: Clr Walford

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

139/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Rowena Lane, maintenance of bus runs and approaches to Bulyeroi Bridge

Resolution:

That the funds allocated to repair edges and pot holes in Rowena Lane (\$35,000); Gravel and Maintenance of bus runs (\$7,000) and repair approaches to Bulyeroi Bridge over Thalba Creek (\$30,000) be deleted and funded out of the baseline budget.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

140/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Saleyard scales and resurfacing of the road into the saleyards

Resolution:

That \$15,000 be allocated to repair the saleyard scales and to resurface the road into the saleyards.

Moved: Clr Colless

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

141/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Burren Junction Bore Baths – 2nd Evaporation pond design

Resolution:

That \$80,000 be allocated for the development of the Burren Junction Bore Baths 2nd evaporation pond.

Moved: Clr Colless

Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

142/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Walgett dirt runway and tie down area

Resolution:

That \$4,500 be allocated for the build up of the low lying part of the Walgett dirt runway and tie down area.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

143/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Water Supply – Update mains, reservoirs, hydrants and install pump at Rowena

Resolution:

That \$80,000 be allocated for the upgrade of the Rowena Water supply.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Smith

CARRIED

144/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation at Walgett

Resolution:

That the \$600,000 allocation for the Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation be deleted and that \$40,000 be allocated for the purpose of planning and design of the Walgett Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

145/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010: Collarenebri Effluent Ponds/Lawn Cemetery

Resolution:

That the \$70,000 allocation for the Collarenebri effluent ponds to establish and water a new lawn cemetery be deleted.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

146/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010

Resolution:

That the proposals for new expenditure in 2009/10, outlined in Attachment One of the agenda and as modified by preceding Resolutions, be exhibited for public comment as part of the Management Plan 2009/10-2013/14.

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

2:50pm Clr Walford left the meeting
2:52pm Clr Walford returned to the meeting

147/09 New Expenditure Proposals 2009/2010

Resolution:

1. That a letter be written to the Department of Water and Energy regarding the anomalies in the application of irrigable rate charges to the whole of an assessment irrespective of the area of the assessment subject to an irrigation license
2. The issue be taken up with the 'C' Division and the Western Division of the Shires Association and with the Shires Association directly.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

3:05pm Clr Colless left the meeting

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

148/09 2009/2010 Rates

Resolution:

That the recommended rates, with the 3.5% increase, be included in the Draft Management Plan 2009/2010-2013/2014 for public exhibition with the following amendments:

	2010 Rate in \$	2010 Base Amount
Rural less than 40 hectares	0.0077625	\$115.00
Preserved Opal Fields – Business	0.06	\$170.00
Preserved Opal Fields – Residential	0.04881946	\$115.00
Other – Residential		\$115.00
Other – Business		\$135.00

Moved: Clr Walford
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

150/09 Draft Budget 2009/2010

Resolution:

1. The Walgett Shire Council Draft Budget 2009-2010, provided under separate cover and modified by resolutions of Council made in respect of preceding items, be exhibited as part of the Management Plan 2009/10 – 2013/14.
2. The Draft Management Plan be exhibited from Friday 15th May 2009 to Friday 12th June 2009 with a closing time for submissions being 4:30pm on 12th June 2009.

Moved: Clr Murray
Seconded: Clr Keir

CARRIED

3:09pm Clr Colless returned to the meeting

Questions without Notice

Clr Keir

Question 1:

Why do we have the U-Turn in Fox street near Tommy Johnsun's shop?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services indicated that the U-Turn was placed there at the direction of the Local Area Traffic Committee. It is a safety measure for persons using the pedestrian crossing, as well as an aid for traffic turning from Warrena Street into Fox street.

Question 2:

At the Walgett Cemetery, there is only one tap available which is located near the front of the cemetery. Are we able to get another tap near the middle of the cemetery where the roses are?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services indicated that he will take the question on notice for the Director Urban Infrastructure.

Question 3:

The large sign that was ordered for Come-By-Chance that is like the other ones in the Shire, where is it and can we get it erected?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services indicated that he will look into this issue.

Question 4:

Is someone able to have a look at the state of the Come-By-Chance tip, it is currently in a mess?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services indicated that he will take the question on notice for the Director Urban Infrastructure.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

What is the policy in regards to who receives subsidised rent?

Response:

The General Manager indicated that at the last council meeting a report was presented to Council which identified the positions eligible for rent subsidy.

Question 2:

Is it true that the IT person has been terminated? Was there a cost to Council?

Response:

The General Manager indicated yes. The General Manager indicated the only cost to Council was payment in lieu of notice.

Councillor Smith

Question 1:

Is there a new person in that position of IT Systems Administrator?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services indicated that at this stage that position is vacant. We are in the process of moving over to Acceler8 as IT Service provider and once this is completed, we will assess the need for an ongoing fulltime position.

3:20pm Clr Keir left the meeting

3:21pm Clr Keir returned

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

There has been someone harassing the ladies at the Historical Society over old rate books?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services indicated that she will look into this matter. The Director also indicated that pursuant to the State Records Act, Council is required to keep the old rates books. The General Manager also indicated that he will follow up this matter.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Clr Colless

Question 1:

Have staff received a phone call from a lady regarding a dangerous culvert on the Coonamble road approximately 14kms out on Highway 333 or main road 383?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services indicated that he will investigate this matter further.

Clr Martinez

Question 1:

Has a site been proposed for the skate park in Lightning Ridge?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services indicated that the original site adjacent to the HACC Centre has already been identified for the Community Centre project. The preferred site is now on land adjacent to the Caravan Park where the public toilets are also to be built.

Question 2:

The standpipe going in at Lightning Ridge, is it going to be metered with a card system? Would it not be more feasible to put it in front of the police station instead of the proposed location?

Response:

The Director Rural Infrastructure and Support Services indicated that everything is open for potential vandalism. However, there is small likelihood of vandalism to the standpipe and the proposed location is the preferred location.

Clr Walford

Question 1:

What is the location for the Walgett Skate Park – have received several calls regarding this?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services advised that the site is on the corner of Dewhurst and Fox Street, where the old tennis courts are. She further indicated that this site is also proposed to house Netball courts.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

Clr Smith

Question 1:

Are we going to get a copy of the quotes for the skate park?

Response:

The Director Corporate and Community Services indicated yes she can provide the quotes.

Clr Walford

Question1:

What was organised with the lease for the Walgett swimming pool – just want clarification?

Response:

The Deputy Mayor advised that a new 1 year lease would be tendered in order to open up the possibility of tendering both the Walgett and Collarenebri pools in 2010.

Clr Smith

Question 1:

What date do we need to put our notices of motions and question with notice?

Response:

The General Manager indicated that Notices of Motion and Questions with Notice need to be submitted by Wednesday 13th May. He also indicated that this is to ensure that staff have enough time to prepare the agenda to enable Councillors to receive their copy 1 week prior to the Council Meeting.

Clr Murray

Question 1:

I have received a letter from Jack McLean regarding a dispute over land. What is Council's role in this matter?

Response:

The General Manager indicated that this is a civil dispute between the two owners and Council has no involvement in this matter. The Director Planning and Regulatory Services further indicated that Council offered 101 Fox as is. The Director further indicated that there are currently two separate issues at hand, both relate to mistaken assertions regarding ownership of a small parcel of land in Fox street.

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES

The Director further indicated that he will look at the files and provide Councillors copies of relevant correspondence in respect of the matter.

3:38pm Clr Martinez left the meeting.
3:40pm Clr Martinez returned to the meeting

Clr Greenaway

Question 1:

Heard on the news that government grants were allocated and that Walgett was successful in obtaining a grant for seating under the shade at the Walgett swimming pool?

Response:

The General Manager and the Director Corporate and Community Services both indicated that they were not aware of this and that they will investigate further.

Question 2:

Is there any word on the Strategic Projects Infrastructure grant money?

Response:

The General Manager advised that we expect to hear soon.

The meeting closed at 3:48pm

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 26th May 2009.

Mayor

General Manager