



**MINUTES FOR  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**16<sup>th</sup> December, 2014**

**ADOPTED:**

Don Ramsland  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER, 2014 AT 10:06 AM**

**PRESENT**

Clr D Lane (Mayor)  
Clr J Keir  
Clr G Murray  
Clr R Greenaway  
Clr D Cooper  
Clr I Woodcock  
Clr L Walford  
Don Ramsland (General Manager)  
Stephen Holland (Director Corporate Services)  
Matthew Goodwin (Director Planning & Regulatory Services)  
Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)  
Prafulla KC (Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services)  
Victoria Renshaw (Minute Secretary)  
Mr Jeff Shanks Council's Auditor

**Apologies**

**16/2014/1 Apologies – December 2014**

**Resolved:**

1. That the apologies received from Clrs Martinez and Taylor be accepted and a leave of absence granted.

**Moved: Clr Greenaway**

**Seconded: Clr Walford**

**CARRIED**

**Public Forum Presentations**

**Mr Andrew Kemeny of the Lightning Ridge Easter Festival Committee discussed the following;**

- Mr Kemeny is the Coordinator of the Lightning Ridge Easter Festival.
- A video giving more information on the Festival is available on the Youtube website under "Lightning Ridge Easter Festival 2014".
- The 2015 Festival aims to get visitors to stay in the region for 3 days, instead of the usual 2 days in previous years.
- Fundraising for the event has started.
- Mr Kemeny circulated a letter to all Councillors requesting a contribution from Council of \$5,000.00. This contribution will be utilised to cover the cost of a piglet racing event and accommodation.
- The Festival Committee also request portable toilets to be made available in Morilla Street for two days.
- Mr Kemeny also circulated a letter from the Committee requesting Council's support in their request for the Sunday Markets group in Lions Park to relocate to Morilla Street so that the Parade has access to the Lions Park area.
- The General Manager will bring a report to the next Council meeting on the requests raised by Mr Kemeny.

**Ms Wendy Spencer of the Dharriwa Elders Group discussed the following;**

- Ms Spencer tabled copies of draft signage for the Walgett Walking Track Project for Councillor feedback.
- Ms Spencer thanked Council for recently grading the walking track.
- There will be 16 interpretive signs along the track.
- The signs will be much larger than the draft copies tabled, and will include high resolution, crisp images.
- Ms Spencer advised that the draft signs have been on display for two weeks for public comment. They have also been tabled at two recent meetings at the Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service.
- Ms Spencer confirmed that the signs will be erected in a way so that they cannot be damaged during a flood event.

**Presentation by Council's Auditor, Mr Jeff Shanks of Luka Group**

- Mr Shanks presented the 2013-2014 audited financial statements and audit report to Council. A copy of his address is attached to these minutes
- Following the presentation, Council made the following resolution;

**16/2014/2 2013-2014 Audited financial statements and audit report**

**Recommendation:**

1. That Council receive the Audited Financial Reports together with the Auditor's Reports for the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

**Moved: Clr Woodcock**

**Seconded: Clr Keir**

**CARRIED**

Mr Shanks left the meeting at 11.40am after having been thanked by the Mayor for an interesting and thorough presentation.

**Declaration of Pecuniary Interests - Nil**

**Confirmation of Minutes**

**16/2014/3 Minutes of Ordinary Council meeting –25 November 2014**

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held 25 November 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**Moved: Clr Cooper**

**Seconded: Clr Walford**

**CARRIED**

## Mayoral Minutes

### **16/2014/4 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 Woodcock

**CARRIED**

## Motions of Which Notice has been Given

### **16/2014/5 Notice of Motion – Clr Murray – NSW RFS Issues**

**Resolved:**

1. That an invitation be extended to the Minister for Emergency Services and NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons to meet with Council representatives to discuss the following issues;
  - a) The issue of the use of cheaper, more effective tanker trailer units in the North West Zone rather than more expensive fire trucks.
  - b) The issue of fire protection clothing suitable for North West Zone conditions.
2. That a copy of the invitation letter is provided to Greg Sim and Kevin Humphries MP.

**Moved:** Clr Murray  
**Seconded:** Clr Greenaway

**CARRIED**

### **16/2014/6 Notice of Motion – Clr Murray – Review of effectiveness of Connected Communities Concept – Walgett Community College**

**Resolved:**

1. That an invitation be extended to the NSW Minister for Education Mr Adrian Piccoli MP to review the effectiveness of the Connected Communities concept at the Walgett Community College as it does not appear to be meeting whole of community expectations.
2. That a copy of the invitation letter is provided to Kevin Humphries MP.

**Moved:** Clr Murray  
**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**Reports of Committees/Delegates -Nil**

**Reports from Officers**

**16/2014/7 Council's Decision Action Report – December 2014**

**Resolved:**

That the Resolution Register for December 2014 be received and noted.

**Moved: Clr Walford**

**Seconded: Clr Cooper**

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/8 Circulars Received from the Local Government NSW**

**Resolved:**

That the information contained in the weekly circulars numbers 44 – 47 from the Local Government NSW be received and noted.

**Moved: Clr Greenaway**

**Seconded: Clr Murray**

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/9 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government – December 2014**

**Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Departmental circular 14-31 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

**Moved: Clr Greenaway**

**Seconded: Clr Murray**

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/10 Monthly Calendar – December 2014 to February 2015**

**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period December 2014 to February 2015.

**Moved:** Clr Keir  
**Seconded:** Clr Cooper

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/11 Walgett Shire – Joint Drought Submission**

**Resolved:**

That a meeting with the Local Federal Member Mark Coulton MP be arranged as a matter of urgency to follow up Council's various Drought Submissions/initiatives.

**Moved:** Clr Walford  
**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/12 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only General Manager**

**Resolved:**

1. That the matters listed for brief mention or information is received, noted and endorsed.

**Moved:** Clr Keir  
**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/13 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 30 November 2014**

**Resolved:**

That the Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 30 November 2014 be received.

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway  
**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/14 Council Chambers Honour Boards**

**Resolved:**

1. That Council note the content of the report and that the list be reviewed by councillors and staff for accuracy and omissions.
2. That Councillors Keir, Greenaway and Woodcock meet with Council staff after the February 2015 meeting to review the report.

**Moved: Clr Keir**  
**Seconded: Clr Greenaway**

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/15 Quarterly Budget Review Statement 2013/14**

**Resolved:**

1. That Council note the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for September and adopt the adjustments/changes indicated within each report respectively.

**Moved: Clr Keir**  
**Seconded: Clr Greenaway**

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/16 Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only – Director Corporate Services**

**Resolved:**

1. That the information be noted.
  - Burren Junction Hall
  - 2013/2014 Annual Report

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

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/17 Development and Complying Development Applications**

**Resolved:**

That Walgett Shire Council note the report on Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with by Council staff under delegated authority for October and November 2014

**Moved: Clr Greenaway**  
**Seconded: Clr Walford**

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/18 Monthly Rural Infrastructure and Support Service Progress report from Director Engineering Services – 30 November 2014**

**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly work progress report for 30 November 2014.

**Moved:** Clr Cooper  
**Seconded:** Clr Keir

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/19 Rural fire services tanker trailer write off**

**Resolved:**

That this item is deferred until a response is received from the NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons regarding the issues raised by Clr Murray in his Motion of Notice.

**Moved:** Clr Greenaway  
**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/20 Monthly RMCC works Report from Director Engineering Services – 30 November 2014**

**Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the monthly RMCC works report for 30 November 2014.

**Moved:** Clr Cooper  
**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/21 Walgett Water Supply: Status Report and Revised Water Restriction Levels**

**Resolved:**

1. That the Level 2 Garden Watering restriction is amended to allow watering from 7:00pm to 9:00pm only, from 16 December 2014.
2. That the Office of Water/State Water are requested to investigate illegal irrigation upstream of Walgett.
3. That Council initiate an approach for emergency bore or pumping from the Barwon River funding as a matter of urgency.

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

**CARRIED**



**16/2014/22 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information Only – Urban Infrastructure Services**

**Resolved:**

That the matters listed for brief mention or information is received, noted and endorsed.

**Moved:**        **Clr Greenaway**

**Seconded:**    **Clr Murray**

**CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned at 12:45pm for lunch.*

*The meeting resumed at 1:31pm with all those previously present again present.*

**Questions for the Next Meeting**

**Clr Murray**

**Question 1**

Can Council investigate re-installing the Walgett Town sign on the Kamilaroi Highway once it is repaired?

**Response**

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services to take appropriate action for repairs and re-installation.

**Question 2**

There is a pit near the Walgett Sewerage Treatment Plant. What is this for?

**Response**

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that this is a borrow pit used by the contractors working on the Walgett Levee Project.

**Question 3**

The unsealed road near the Walgett tip is untidy and there is rubbish in the area. Can this be tidied up?

**Response**

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that the area was cleared last week and he will investigate further and take appropriate action.

**Clr Cooper**

**Question 1**

The undercover area between the small and large swimming pools in Walgett that was previously grassed is now dirt. Can Council investigate?

**Response**

The Director Corporate Services advised that a number of options for recovering are currently being investigated and appropriate action will be taken without any further delay.

**Clr Keir**

**Question 1**

Can the Rosemary around the ANZAC Monument in Fox Street Walgett be removed?

**Response**

The General Manager advised that the RSL is planning on installing planter boxes around the Monument but that the damaged rosemary will be removed in the interim period.

**Question 2**

Brian Hannigan has written to Council regarding the misspelling of the Hardy's Lease Road. Can his letter be acknowledged and a response sent?

**Response**

The Director of Engineering Services advised that the letter has been received, will be acknowledged by letter and appropriate action initiated without delay to correct the spelling error.

**Question 3**

What is the progress of the fencing issue at the Walgett Weir?

**Response**

The General Manager advised that the laneway to the weir will be fenced shortly and arrangement for access made as necessary.

**Question 4**

Has the Walgett Masonic Hall fencing project started? A window has also recently been broken at the Hall.

**Response**

The Director Corporate Services advised that the project has started and the broken window will be repaired without delay.

**Question 5**

There is rubbish in the Montkeila Street bend area. Can this area be tidied?

**Response**

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services is to take appropriate action to have the rubbish cleaned up.

**Question 6**

Can the letter received from Michael Hughes Transport be acknowledged?

**Response**

The General Manager advised that the letter received will be acknowledged and further negotiation for the sale of the land involved initiated.

**16/2014/23 Move into Closed Session at 2:28pm**

**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**

**16/2014/24 Mayoral Minute – General Manager’s Performance Review**

**Resolved:**

1. That the summary of the performance monitoring undertaken by LG NSW Management Solutions on behalf of Council be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Keir  
**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/25 Review of Council’s Organisational Structure – December, 2014**

**Resolved:**

That Council endorse the proposed reorganisation of Council’s functional activities into a three divisional structure and that an appropriate consultation process be commenced early in January, 2015 with a view to a definite proposal being put before Council for consideration in February, 2015.

**Moved:** Clr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Clr Walford

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/26 RFT14/042 Supply and Installation of Cabling for Voice and Data Networks**

**Resolved:**

That Council accept the quotation from Everingham Electrical & Data Pty Ltd in the sum of \$42,306 for the supply and installation of cabling for voice & data networks.

That an amount of \$13,000 be transferred from office furniture & equipment replacement (Budget 11.03823.3827) and \$10,000 from IT support general (Budget 11.03823.4975) to Budget 11.03823.3923 (telephone system upgrade).

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

**CARRIED**

**16/2014/27 Return to Open Session at 2:35pm**

**Resolved:**

1. That Council return to open session.

**Moved:** Clr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Clr Murray

**CARRIED**

## 16/2014/28 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

### Resolved:

That Council adopt the following recommendation of the Closed Committee:

- 1) Mayoral Minute – General Manager’s Performance Review
- 2) Review of Council’s Organisational Structure
- 3) Supply and Installation of Cabling for Voice and Data Networks

**Moved: Cllr Woodcock**

**Seconded: Cllr Keir**

**CARRIED**

### Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 2:35pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on 10 February 2015 at Walgett.

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Mayor

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General Manager