



MINUTES FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

25th March, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting of Walgett Shire Council was held at the **Lightning Ridge Bowling Club**, on **25 March 2014** commencing at 10:22am 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 ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE LIGHTNING RIDGE BOWLING CLUB ON TUESDAY 25th MARCH, 2014 AT 10:22 AM

PRESENT

Clr G Murray (Mayor)
Clr D Lane
Clr I Woodcock
Clr M Martinez
Clr D Cooper
Clr R Greenaway
Clr M Taylor
Don Ramsland (General Manager)
Stephen Holland (Director Corporate Services)
Raju Ranjit (Director Engineering Services)
Prafulla K.C (Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services)
Matthew Goodwin (Director Planning & Regulatory Services)
Andrew Wilson (Senior Health & Building Surveyor)
Victoria Renshaw (Minute Secretary)

Welcome to Visitors

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

Apologies

5/2014/1 Apologies – 25 March 2014

Resolved:

1. That the apologies received from Councillors Keir & Walford are accepted and a leave of absence granted.
2. That the apology received from Clr Cooper is accepted and a leave of absence granted until he arrives at the meeting.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

Declaration of Pecuniary/Non Pecuniary Interests

Clr Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in item 25 as he is the applicant for this item.

Public Forum Presentations

Ms Wendy Spencer of the Dharriwaa Elders Group discussed the following;

- The Dharriwaa Elders Group have successfully obtained grant funding for their “Caring for Country” Project.
- The project involves the establishment of walking tracks and picnic areas along the Barwon River in Walgett.
- Ms Spencer outlined the project and work involved to complete elements of the project.
- Ms Spencer thanked Council for our previous in principle support of the project.
- Ms Spencer requested assistance from Council for the following;
 - Padlocks for securing signs
 - Maintenance of the tracks
 - 3 road signs to identify the location of the walking tracks
 - Park benches
 - Approval of signage content

Ms Philomena McCue-Young discussed the following;

- Ms McCue-Young is the president of the Lightning Ridge Arts & Crafts Council.
- Ms McCue-Young undertakes volunteer work at the Council between 5 to 7 days per week with her husband.
- Ms McCue-Young requests a lump sum grant of \$10,000, of which 10% will be donated to the Lightning Ridge Arts & Crafts Council.
- The remainder is requested by Ms McCue Young to pay medical costs for dental surgery.

Confirmation of Minutes

5/2014/2 Minutes of Council meeting –11th February 2014

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 11 February 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

5/2014/3 Minutes of Council meeting – 4 March 2014

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 4 March 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Cllr Woodcock

Seconded: Cllr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/4 Minutes of Council meeting – 11 March 2014

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 11 March 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Cllr Taylor

Seconded: Cllr Martinez

CARRIED

Mayoral Minutes

5/2014/5 Matters for Brief Mention or Information Only from Mayor

Resolved:

That the matters listed for Brief Mention by the Mayor are received and noted.

Moved: Cllr Greenaway

Seconded: Cllr Woodcock

CARRIED

Councillors Questions From Last Meeting

Clr Taylor

Question 1

What is the progress of the drought funding application?

Response

The General Manager advised that a submission was made to the Prime Minister and Minister for Primary Industries when a visit to Bourke was made on 16 February 2014. On 26 February a Drought Assistance Package was released by the Federal Government, which did not include employment support measures as outlined in Council's submission.

Question 2

What is the progress of the Hudson pear control funding?

Response

The General Manager advised that it is estimated that approximately \$150,000 will be received through Western Catchment Management. It is proposed that an amount will be allocated towards a feasibility study. A further amount will be allocated towards landholders to undertake their own work, with the balance to go to the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council to undertake work on roadsides etc.

Question 3

What is the progress of the Walgett Weir upgrade?

Response

The General Manager advised that the feasibility study will be completed shortly. When Council receives the study it will be forwarded to our consultant Jill Kilby. It is anticipated that the study will recommend the levee is raised by 1 metre. Once the feasibility study is received by Council an application for funding will be made.

Question 4

Has work been done on a grid on the highway 34km from the Lightning Ridge Post Office in the direction of Hebel?

Response

The Director Engineering Services advised that the RMS are currently doing work on this grid. Council are to provide RMS with specification for this.

Clr Lane

Question 1

A complaint has been received regarding the water restrictions. What restrictions are currently in place?

Response

The General Manager advised that in early January Council imposed Level 1 water restrictions. These restrictions did not allow for sprinkler use at any time. Council has previously adopted water restrictions that result in a stark difference between no restrictions and Level 1. Upon his return from leave the General Manager lessened the restrictions to allow for sprinklers to be used between 5-8am and 6-9pm. The General Manager noted that Council's current water restriction policy will need to be revised in the future. Clr Keir is to follow up with the complainant.

Clr Martinez

Question 1

The trees in Pandora Street are currently dying. Can this be resolved as soon as possible?

Response

The General Manager advised that the dripper system needs to be replaced and provision will be included in the 2014/15 budget for this project. In the interim period watering will be undertaken by Council staff. The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services advised that he has requested Council staff to use sandbags when watering to avoid water flooding issues.

Clr Greenaway

Question 1

What is the progress of the repairs to the Collarenebri bank house?

Response

The General Manager advised that the bank house and future of the Collarenebri Agency will be subject of a report to the April Council meeting.

Question 2

When will work be carried out on the bridges located on Shire Road 5 and does Council intend to renew the bitumen on the approaches to these bridges?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Clr Keir

Question 1

What is happening with the state of the grounds at the Court House?

Response

The General Manager advised that the Court Administration has recently changed and it is anticipated that the issue should not continue under the new administration.

Question 2

The Walgett Sporting Club board have not received a letter from Council advising that they have received funding.

Response

The General Manager advised that he advised the Sporting Club's Treasurer that the payment will be made to the Sporting Club upon receipt of an invoice.

Reports of Committees/Delegates

5/2014/6 Minutes of Health & Safety Committee Meeting – 13 February 2014

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Health & Safety Committee Meeting held 13 February 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Taylor
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

5/2014/7 Minutes of OROC Meeting – 6 December 2014

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the OROC Meeting held 6 December 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/8 Minutes of Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 12 December 2013

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting held 12 December 2013, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting and the recommendations therein be adopted as resolutions of Council.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

5/2014/9 Minutes of Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 13 February 2014

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting held 13 February 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting and the recommendations therein be adopted as resolutions of Council.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

5/2014/10 Minutes of Walgett Shire Council Plant Committee Meeting

Resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Walgett Shire Council Plant Committee Meeting held 4 March 2014, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting and the recommendations therein adopted as resolutions of Council.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Taylor

Clr Cooper arrived at the meeting at 11:05am.

Reports from Officers

5/2014/11 Council's Decision Action Report – March 2014

Resolved:

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

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

5/2014/12 Circulars Received from the Local Government NSW

Resolved:

That the information contained in the weekly circulars numbers 5 – 9 from the Local Government NSW be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

5/2014/13 Circulars Received from the Department of Premier & Cabinet – March 2014

Resolved:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 14-03 to 14-05 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Cooper
Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

5/2014/14 Monthly Calendar –March 2014 to May 2014

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the regular monthly calendar for the period March 2014 to May 2014.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/15 Implementation of Performance Management Process

Resolved:

For Council's information.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Taylor

5/2014/16 Variation of Council Meeting Date

Resolved:

That in view of running into the Easter holiday period, the April meeting of Council be moved back one week to Tuesday 29 April 2014.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/17 SES Controller Appointment Confirmations

Resolved:

That Council endorse action taken to support the new appointments/re-appointments to the SES positions at Lightning Ridge and Glengarry and Collarenebri, Carinda and Walgett and extend letters of appreciation to the outgoing controllers and those being re-appointed and also congratulate the newly appointed controllers.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

5/2014/18 Revitalising Local Government – Comment on ILGRP Recommendations

Resolved:

That Council consider the attached draft submission, make any changes it considers appropriate and forward it to the Office of Local Government prior to 4 April, 2014.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/19 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.
 - a) Eurool Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
 - b) Revised 2014/15 Operating Plan & Budget Preparation Schedule
 - c) Expression of Interest Regional Express
 - d) Mobile Phone Coverage Submission
 - e) Regional Aviation Submission
 - f) Drought Relief Submission
 - g) Cost Shifting Survey
2. That Council write to the State and Federal Governments requesting that the drought fodder subsidy is increased to \$40,000 for the Walgett Shire as there still has been no meaningful rain.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Martinez

CARRIED

5/2014/20 Cash on Hand and Investment Report as at 28 February 2014

Resolved:

1. That the cash on hand and investment report as at 28 February 2014 be received.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/21 Quarterly Budget Review Statements 30 September & 31 December 2013

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and note the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statements for 30 September and 31 December 2013 and adopt the adjustments/changes indicated within each report respectively.

Moved: Cllr Woodcock
Seconded: Cllr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/22 Walgett Memorial Bowls Carnival Support

Resolved:

1. That Council provide sponsorship to the Walgett District Sporting Club for the Thorne's Memorial Bowls Carnival in the sum of \$500.00 from the Aboriginal Projects budget 11.03561.1479
2. That the Walgett Sporting Club be advised to submit an application to the January round of Council's Community Assistance program should it wish to seek sponsorship for future year's events.

Moved: Cllr Woodcock
Seconded: Cllr Lane

CARRIED

5/2014/23 Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director Corporate Services – March 2014

Resolved:

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

Moved: Cllr Lane
Seconded: Cllr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/24 Road Dedication, Walgett

Resolved:

1. That Council Note the letter dated 27 February 2014 from SMK requesting that Council write to Crown Lands asking that control these parts of the reserve be transferred to Council from Crown lands.
2. Respond to Crown Lands requesting that Neill Street and the part of Pitt Street that form part of Travelling Stock Reserve 12870 be dedicated to Council control.

Moved: Clr Greenaway
Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

Clr Taylor declared a Pecuniary Interest in the following item and left the meeting at 11:53am.

5/2014/25 Review of Development Determination 2014/006 – Michael Taylor

Resolved:

That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:

1. Approve Development Application DA2014/006 by Michael Taylor for dwelling extensions on Lot 30 DP 752756 subject to the conditions of development consent recommended in the application assessment report.

Moved: Clr Lane
Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

Planning Division

For

Clr Greenaway
Clr Martinez
Clr Lane
Clr Woodcock
Clr Murray
Clr Cooper

Against

Nil

Absent

Clr Keir
Clr Walford

Interest Declared

Clr Taylor

Clr Taylor returned to the meeting at 11:55am.

5/2014/26 Off Leash Area for Dogs at Lightning Ridge

Resolved:

1. That Walgett Shire Council propose the following locations as potential sites for the Off Leash Area for Dogs;
 1. Area at eastern end of Lightning Ridge Racetrack.
 2. Area at western end of Lightning Ridge Racetrack on corner of Gem and Kopi Streets.
2. That Walgett Shire Council place the above location proposals on Public Exhibition and public submissions be invited.

Moved: Clr

Seconded: Clr

CARRIED

Planning Division

For

Clr Greenaway

Clr Martinez

Clr Lane

Clr Woodcock

Clr Murray

Clr Cooper

Clr Taylor

Against

Nil

Absent

Clr Keir

Clr Walford

5/2014/27 Road Network Risk Management Policy

Resolved:

That the draft Road Network Risk Management Policy be adopted in principle and placed on public exhibition and public comment invited.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/28 Rowena RFS Shed

Resolved:

1. That Council note the report and support the disposal of the existing RFS station and the building of a new station.
2. That Council allow the Brigade to dispose of the existing station.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/29 Kerb and Gutter Work in Warrena Street, Walgett

Resolved:

1. That Council note the information contained in this report.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/30 Monthly flood works Report from Director Engineering Services

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and note the monthly flood restoration works report for March 2014.

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/31 Rural Fire Fighting North West Zone Service Draft Budget 2014/2015

Resolved:

1. That Council receive and notes the draft budget for 2014/2015.
2. That Council advise the RFS that it is unable to approve any increase in the 2014/15 RFS budget that exceeds the 2.3% State Government rate pegging limit.
3. That Council request OROC to investigate whether other local Councils are having similar levies in excess of rate pegging limits imposed on them.
4. Council adopt a similar stance with other government agencies (eg. NSW Fire & Rescue etc).

Moved: Clr Lane

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

Grawin Bore

Representatives for the Glengarry, Grawin Sheeppark Miners Association addressed the meeting prior to the luncheon adjournment with regards to the possibility of obtaining funding of \$354,000 for the sinking and casing of a bore at Grawin to service local residents.

It was agreed that a report would be prepared for the April Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:49pm.

The meeting resumed at 1:18pm with all those previously present again present.

Questions for the next Meeting

Clr Taylor

Question 1

Is the contract street sweeper in operation, and if so on what days?

Response

The General Manager to investigate.

Question 2

The Give Way sign on the corner of Morilla & Opal Streets is faded and needs to be replaced.

Response

Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 3

There is stormwater running from the drain into the gully at the front of the Lightning Ridge Police Station that is wearing away the drain. Can this be investigated?

Response

The Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 4

When will the Main Street Beautification Project start?

Response

The General Manager advised that as previously discussed Council anticipated receiving part funding from the former Gillard Government for the project, along with Council funds as allocated in the present budget. Due to the change in Government this funding will no longer be available. With the absence of funding this project may need to be spread over a longer period of time. The project has commenced, with members of the Planning Department undertaking conceptual plans. Community consultation will also be undertaken shortly. Projects will be undertaken in the following order;

- 1.Collarenebri
- 2.Walgett
- 3.Lightning Ridge

Question 5

The road to the side of Pandora Street is dangerous with vehicles entering/exiting at various points along the road. Can measures be put in place for defined entry and exit points?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Clr Lane**Question 1**

Were Council represented at the recent interdepartmental meeting held recently and, if so, what was discussed?

Response

The General Manager advised that he did participate in a teleconference at late notice. Agenda and minutes for that meeting have not yet been received. The General Manager will circulate once received.

Question 2

A resident has complained about motorbike users driving through the park in Butterfly Avenue, Lightning Ridge. Can Council implement measures to stop this from happening?

Response

Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 3

A number of local businesses located in Opal Street, Lightning Ridge have reported grit in their water supply. Can the main be flushed to resolve this?

Response

Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 4

I have received an email from Col Hundy regarding procedures for addressing Council's public forum. Can the General Manager investigate this?

Response

Copy of email provided to the General Manager to be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

Clr Woodcock**Question 1**

Can Council undertake an audit of footpaths in the Shire. There are areas where trees are growing through the concrete creating uneven paths.

Response

Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 2

Can provision be made to upgrade the watering system at the main oval of the Collarenebri Sporting Fields in the 2014/15 budget?

Response

Director Urban Infrastructure Services to investigate.

Question 3

Complaints have been received from residents about tip charges. Can Council advertise the tip charges so that residents are made aware of them?

Response

The Acting Director Urban Infrastructure Services is to investigate and bring a report to the April Council meeting.

Question 4

What is the present position with regards to the Cumborah Hall project?

Response

The General Manager advised that if the original community project approach to construction had been allowed to proceed the building would have been completed more than 18 months ago. Instead it has been repeatedly delayed by the need to obtain competitive quotes from the various trades. Last week a price of \$106,000 had been received from a local supplier for the main shed component with plumbing and electrical trades being the subject of further competitive quotes.

Clr Woodcock requested that the original shed supplier from Lightning Ridge be allowed the opportunity to quote on the final shed design.

Clr Greenaway**Question 1**

The barge board edging is missing on the eastern side of the Rowena Hall. Can this be repaired?

Response

Director Corporate Services to investigate.

Question 2

What is happening with the bank of soil along the side of the two causeways on Regional Road 329 at the Burren Junction end of the Rowena-Narrabri crossroads?

Response

The Director Engineering Services advised that this will be completed in the near future at the same time as the Box Culvert upgrade.

Question 3

How much use has the low loader had since it was purchased by Council?

Response

The Director Engineering Services to investigate.

Question 4

Why has the ramp at the Merrywinebone Silo on Shire Road 2 not yet been removed?

Response

The Director Engineering Services advised that this project will be allocated in the budget for the 2014/15 financial year.

Question 5

Why has the ramp at the Collarenebri end of Shire Road 5 not yet been removed?

Response

The Director Engineering Services advised that this project will be allocated in the budget for the 2014/15 financial year.

Question 6

When will the public meeting to discuss the Burren Junction Hall be held?

Response

The General Manager advised that he anticipates that the meeting will take place at the same time as the budget meeting to be held in Burren Junction.

Clr Cooper**Question 1**

Landholders on the Brewon Road would like to know how they can rename the Wanerie Bridge to the Edward Stanley (Ted) Fuller Bridge.

Response

The General Manager advised that Council will make investigations with the Geographical Lands Board in relation to the correct procedure for requesting a bridge renaming.

Question 2

Can a Give Way sign be placed at the State Highway 18 and State Highway 29 east intersection?

Response

The General Manager advised that this request will be referred to the Local Area Traffic Committee.

Question 3

What is happening with the Walgett Mud Trials?

Response

The Mayor advised that maps have been received regarding the proposed venue.

Question 4

I have received a letter from Karen Mackie following a dog attack on stock at her property. What is Council's position regarding dog attacks?

Response

A copy of the letter was provided to the General Manager. The Director Planning & Regulatory Services advised that the Local Land Services previously baited within the town vicinity in order to avoid dogs from within town attacking livestock out of town, however it is believed that this is not done anymore. Council are to write to the Local Land Services requesting their position regarding baiting and to respond direct to Ms Mackie.

Question 5

What is happening regarding the weir access issues at Gavin & Linda Schmetzer's property?

Response

The General Manager advised that the matter is currently with the Lands Department. General Manager to enquire with the Department as to progress of the matter.

Clr Martinez**Question 1**

A complaint has been received from one of the concrete yard operators in the Shire. He believes that he is not receiving an equal opportunity to quote on jobs for Council. Can Council invite tenders for a 6 month period for concrete work?

Response

The General Manager to investigate.

Question 2

Can a report be prepared with regards to the ongoing issue of asbestos disposal at Walgett Landfill to ensure Council will not be liable in anyway in the future?

Response

The Director of Urban Infrastructure Services is to prepare a report.

5/2014/32 Move into Closed Session At 2:05PM

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 Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

5/2014/33 Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Restructure

Resolved:

1. That Walgett Shire Council provide the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council with an advance of \$50,000.00 to be repaid over a period of 3 years interest free.
2. That Walgett Shire Council submit an Expression of Interest for operation of the administration and finance function of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Greenaway

CARRIED

5/2014/34 Sale of land for unpaid rates – 14 December 2013

Resolved:

1. That Council approve the rates and charges written off totalling \$858.34 as detailed on the attached schedule in relation to the sale of land for unpaid rates on 14th December 2013.
2. That Council approve the write off of non-recoverable sales cost totalling \$7,863.36 as detailed on the attached schedule.

Moved: Cllr Lane
Seconded: Cllr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/35 Council Telephone Upgrade

Resolved:

That Council consider a provision in the Draft 2014/15 Budget of \$150,000 for a new Unified Communications telephone system and associated data infrastructure upgrade. Subject to funding it is further recommended that Council proceed to stage 2 being the preparation of tender documentation and the calling of tenders.

Moved: Cllr Lane
Seconded: Cllr Cooper

CARRIED

5/2014/36 Request for Inspection Report by Council – George Mulder

Resolved:

1. That the General Manager have further correspondence with Mr George Mulder, in view of the fact that the unauthorised residential occupation has primarily now ceased, with regards to the options going forward.

Moved: Cllr Lane
Seconded: Cllr Woodcock

CARRIED

5/2014/37 Request for funding – Lightning Ridge Arts & Crafts Council

Resolved:

1. That Walgett Shire Council advise that it is unable to provide financial assistance for private gain pursuant to section 356 of the Local Government Act without giving due notice and inviting public submissions.
2. That Walgett Shire Council request Outback Arts call a special meeting of those people interested in the Lightning Ridge Arts & Crafts Council to see if they are willing to provide funds requested or if there are other persons who would be interested in taking over the running of the Lightning Ridge Arts & Crafts Council.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Taylor

CARRIED

5/2014/38– Dharriwaa Elders Group Caring for County Project

Resolved:

1. That Walgett Shire Council approve the project, subject to the following;
 - a. Community Services workers perform clean up of the sites on an ongoing basis.
 - b. The wording on all proposed signage is submitted to Council for approval.
 - c. Signage is constructed so that it can be lifted and removed from the site during flood events.
 - d. The tracks are no wider than one bobcat width.
 - e. Any grading work by Council is done on a sundry debtor basis.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

CARRIED

5/2014/39 Return to Open Session at 2:50PM

Resolved:

1. That Council return to open session.

Moved: Clr Greenaway

Seconded: Clr Lane

CARRIED

5/2014/40 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

Resolved:

That Council adopt the following recommendation of the Closed Committee:

- 1) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Restructure
- 2) Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates 14 December 2013
- 3) Council Telephone Upgrade
- 4) Request for Inspection Report by Council – George Mulder
- 5) Request for funding – Lightning Ridge Arts & Crafts Council
- 6) Dharriwaa Elders Group – Caring for Country Project

Moved: Cllr Greenaway
Seconded: Cllr Martinez
CARRIED

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 2:41pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of Council to be held on 29 April 2014 at Collarenebri.

Mayor

General Manager