



MINUTES
COUNCIL
ORDINARY
MEETING

Tuesday 26th March 2024

Megan Dixon
GENERAL MANAGER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD
26 MARCH 2024

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:05am

PRESENT

Councillors:

Mayor Jasen Ramien
Deputy Mayor Colin Hundy
Councillor Jane Keir
Councillor Greg Rummery
Councillor Michael Cooke
Councillor Ian Woodcock
Councillor Sue Currey
Councillor Alf Seaton
Councillor Daniel Walford

Officers:

Megan Dixon (General Manager)
Kimley Talbert (Director Environmental Services)
Kazi Mahmud (Director Engineering/Technical Services)
Bronte Kerr (Minute Secretary)

ABSENT

Nil

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional owners of the lands within the Walgett Shire and acknowledged the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within this Shire.

04/2024/01 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED on MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY; That Council no leave of absences is granted for Tuesday 26th March 2024 Ordinary Business Meeting.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor	Item No.	Report title/ Subject matter	Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary	Reason
Ramien	12.2.1	Monthly Maintenance Grading Report	Pecuniary	Family business interest
Keir	12.2.1	Monthly Maintenance Grading Report	Pecuniary	Family business interest

04/2024/02 ADOPTION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that the minutes from the Ordinary Council meeting held the 27th of February 2024, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on these meetings.

04/2024/03 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MEETING 14th FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY that the minutes from the Local Emergency Management Committee held 14th February 2024 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on these meetings.

04/2024/04 MAYORAL MINUTE

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RAMIEN; Seconded by Councillor COOKE that the mayoral minute be received and noted.

04/2024/05 MATTERS IN PROGRESS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor HUNDY; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK that the Matters in Progress up until February 2024 be received and noted.

04/2024/06 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor KEIR that the information contained in the following Department circular 24-03 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet, be received and noted.

04/2024/07 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor CURREY that Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

04/2024/08 PROJECT UPDATE

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor KEIR that Council receive and note the report.

04/2024/09 CASH AND INVESTMENT AS AT 29th FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY that the Investment report be received and noted.

04/2024/10 OUTSTANDING RATES AND CHARGES AS AT 29th FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY that the 29th February 2024 outstanding rates report be received and noted.

04/2024/11 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE SCHEME ROUND 2 -2023/2024

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor KEIR that the following eligible applicants be granted financial assistance under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 for Round Two of the 2023/2024 Community Assistance Scheme.

Lightning Ridge Rotary Club	\$3,000
Carinda Race Club Meet	\$3,000
Grawin Opal Miners Sports & Recreation Club	\$3,000
Let's Dance Carinda	\$3,000
Walgett Jockey Club	\$3,000

04/2024/12 ADVERTISING POLICY

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor SEATON; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY that Council adopts the 2024 Advertising Policy.

04/2024/13 LIGHTNING RIDGE OPAL QUEEN

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; Seconded by Councillor SEATON that Council:

1. Do not approve the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2022/2023 financial year as this has already been written off.
2. Approves the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2023/2024 financial year.
3. Approves the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2024/2025 financial year.

4. The sponsorship agreement with the Opal and Gem Festivals be reviewed annually to ensure transparency and appropriate allocation of funds.

04/2024/14 AMENDMENT - LIGHTNING RIDGE OPAL QUEEN

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that Council:

1. Do not approve the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2022/2023 financial year as this has already been written off.
2. Approves the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2023/2024 financial year, contingent upon the receipt of the organisation's most recent audited financial statements.
3. Approves the sponsorship of the Opal Queen Ball for \$5,000 for the period 2024/2025 financial year contingent upon the receipt of the organisation's most recent audited financial statements.
4. The sponsorship agreement with the Opal and Gem Festivals be reviewed annually to ensure transparency and appropriate allocation of funds.

**The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried.
The amendment then became the motion.**

At 9.46am Mayor Ramien and Cllr Keir declared a pecuniary interest and exited the Council Chamber.

Deputy Mayor Hundy assumed the role of Chairperson.

04/2024/15 MONTHLY MAINTENANCE GRADING REPORT AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2024
RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor COOKE; seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for February 2024.

At 9.52am Mayor Ramien and Councillor Keir returned to the meeting.

Mayor Ramien resumed the role of Chairperson.

04/2024/16 REPORT TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON MAJOR PROJECTS AS AT 29th FEBRUARY 2024
RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor WOODCOCK; Seconded by Councillor COOKE that Council receive and note the monthly major projects report for February 2024.

At 10.04am Councillor Walford exited the Council Chamber.

04/2024/17 REPORT TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON TECHNICAL SERVICES PROGRESS AS AT 29th FEBRUARY 2024
RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY that Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for February 2024.

04/2024/18 MATTERS GENERALLY FOR BRIEF MENTION OR INFORMATION
RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor CURREY; Seconded by Councillor WOODCOCK that Council receive and note this report.

04/2024/19 DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS FEBRUARY 2024
RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor KEIR; Seconded by Councillor HUNDY that Council note the information contained within this report.

At 10.10am Councillor Walford returned to the meeting room.

04/2024/20 MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

TIME: 10:12am

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor RUMMERY; Seconded by Councillor KEIR that the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (1) (a) (b) & (2) (a) (b) & (c) the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

- 1) A council, or a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors, may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises --
 - a) the discussion of any of the matters listed in subclause (2), or
 - b) the receipt or discussion of any of the information so listed.

- 2) The matters and information are the following --
 - a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
 - b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
 - c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

04C/2024/21 EVERYONE CAN PLAY PARK, LIGHTNING RIDGE – TENDER SUBMISSION

RESOLVED ON MOTION by Councillor HUNDY; Seconded by Councillor RUMMERY that Council:

1. Decline the tender submission.
2. Seek full funding to implement the project, when a suitable funding stream becomes available.

For: Councillors Currey, Hundy, Keir, Rummery, Seaton, Walford, Woodcock.

Against: Councillor Cooke.

04/2024/22 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

TIME: 10:24am

RESOLVED ON THE MOTION by Councillor HUNDY and Councillor KEIR that the Council return to open session.

04/2024/23 ADOPTION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORT

RESOLVED ON THE MOTION of Councillor RUMMERY and Councillor HUNDY that Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 10.25am

To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

Mayor

General Manager