



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 30 November 2022

at

03:20pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

**The Audio Statement and Acknowledgement of Country
were read by the Chairman.**

PRESENT: Clr EH Noakes (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors MA Berry, NF Hicks, SJ Kermode, AC Pointing, A Reilly and GDM Schaefer.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr PE Hood – Director Infrastructure & Development / Acting General Manager, Mr CC Martin – Director Corporate & Community and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

81 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Berry that the Leave of Absence emailed to Council by Clr Ferrier, due to a medical condition, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022:

82 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Berry and Pointing that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 26 October 2022, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record with the addition of the complete Mayoral Minute added to the Minutes.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

7.1 Notice of Motion#26: Business Plan for Renewable Energy Projects

Clr Schaefer declared a Pecuniary – Conflict of Interest in this matter due to being a host landholder for Winterbourne Wind and Director / Shareholder of Walcha Wind Pty Ltd.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

5.1 Mayoral Minute – Declaration of Statewide Road Emergency

WO/2022/03433

83 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Noakes and Hicks that Walcha Council joins with Local Government NSW and Country Mayors Association of NSW in declaring a Statewide Road Emergency.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

84 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Reilly and Kermode that the Senior Officers' Reports be **RECEIVED** for further consideration.

6.1 Presentation of Audited 2021 – 2022 Financial Statements

WO/2022/03438

85 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Kermode that Council:

1. **ADOPT** the Audited Annual Financial Statements including the Audit Report for the year ending 30 June 2022;
2. **PUBLICLY** exhibit the Audited Annual Financial Statements including the Independent Auditors Report pursuant to Section 418(1) of the Local Government Act, 1993;



- 3. **NOTE** the presentation of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022 and Independent Auditors Report pursuant to Section 419 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Paul Cornall, Council’s Auditor representative, spoke to the Auditors Report of the Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022.

6.2 Grants for Junior Sporting / Coaching Clinics **WO/2022/03427**

86 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Kermode that Council **ALLOCATE** the following funds to:

- 1. Walcha Flippers Swimming Club - \$2,400;
- 2. Walcha & District Tennis Association - \$700;

FURTHER THAT as per the Local Government Act 1993, Section 356 Council **REFUSE** MacCallum Performance application for funding as it is a private business and therefore is ineligible to apply through this funding.

6.3 Waiving of After Hours Pool Hire Fees – All bookings for 2022 – 2023 Season **WO/2022/03367**

87 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Reilly and Schaefer that Council:

- 1. **APPROVE** waiving the After Hours Pool Hire Fees for the 2022 – 2023 season in all circumstances, providing that those using the pool are still paying their entry fees as normal, and there is a booking made with a minimum of 20 users;
- 2. **ENSURE** user groups have adequate notification before the next season should the After Hours Pool Hire Fee remain in the 2023 – 2024 Fees & Charges;
- 3. **REVIEW** the Learn to Swim Assistance Policy prior to setting the 2023 – 2024 Fees & Charges.

6.4 Changes to Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee **WO/2022/03439**

88 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that in order to recruit new independent members of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) Council:

- 1. **TERMINATE** the appointment of independent ARIC Members of the Walcha Council ARIC as at 31 December 2022;
- 2. **NOTIFY** Walcha Council ARIC Members of the termination;
- 3. **CONSIDER** the Office of Local Government model Audit, Risk & Improvement Charter once established; workshop and define Council’s



expectations of the ARIC in line with S428A of the Local Government Act 1993;

4. **ADOPT** the fees for three independent members (one as Chair) as set out in the report;
5. **UNDERTAKE** to share the ARIC independent members jointly with Uralla Shire Council; and
6. **CALL** for expressions of interest for panel members jointly with Uralla Shire Council.

6.5 Administration Policies – Walcha Council Housing Policy

WO/2022/03395

89 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that Council **NOTE**:

1. the new Administrative Walcha Council Housing Policy; and
2. that all previous Housing Rental Policies be **REVOKED**.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Clr Schaefer left the Chambers and took no part in the debate at 03:50pm.

7.1 Notice of Motion Number: 26: Business Plan for Proposed Developers of Renewable Energy Projects

WO/2022/03423

Motion:

It was **MOVED** Councillor Berry **Seconded** Councillor Kermode that Council **ACKNOWLEDGE** the Survey results from Voice for Walcha and **DEVELOP** a Strategic Business Plan for all proposed Developments of Renewable Energy Projects informed by the work of the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM).

Amendment:

An **Amendment** was **MOVED** Councillor Hicks **Seconded** Councillor Reilly that Council **DEVELOP** a Strategic Business Plan for all proposed Developments of Renewable Energy Projects informed by the work of the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM).

Division of Voting:

For: Hicks Pointing and Reilly
Against: Berry Noakes and Kermode.
Absent: Ferrier
Declared Interest: Schaefer



As the Voting is tied the **Amendment** is deemed as **LOST** as per the Walcha Council Code of Meeting Practice Clause 11.3.

90 The **Original Motion** became the **Substantive Motion** and was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

Division of Voting:

For: Councillors: Berry, Kermode, Noakes and Pointing

Against: Councillors: Hicks and Reilly

Absent: Ferrier

Declared Interest: Schaefer

Clr Schaefer returned to the Chambers at 3:58pm and the Chair informed him of the resolution.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

9.1 Office of the General Manager

WO/2022/03441

91 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that items included in the Office of the General Manager Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.2 Infrastructure & Development

WO/2022/03435

92 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks that items included in the Infrastructure & Development Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.3 Corporate & Community

WO/2022/03319

93 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks that items included in the Corporate & Community Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

94 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Reilly that Council **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the Delegate Reports as presented.



11.1 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Meeting held at Theatrette, Parliament House, Sydney on Friday 05 August 2022

WI/2022/14683

11.2 Delegates Report – Clr Hicks & Clr Reilly – Local Government NSW Annual Conference on 23-25 October 2022 Report

11.3 Walcha Community Consultative Committee Annual General Meeting Minutes held at Walcha Council Chambers, Hamilton Street Walcha on Wednesday 09 November 2022.

WO/2022/03298

12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

12.1 July 2022 Mayoral Minute – Resolution 02/20222023 – Clr Hicks

As per the Action List: Letters to various Ministers and Departments – Have these been sent?

12.2 July 2022 Notice of Motion – Resolution 08/20222023 – Clr Kermode:

Action List: Vegetation Regrowth on Roadside Verges – Clr Kermode stated he noticed Dead saplings along highway – is this part of the RMCC?

13. CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:21PM.