



## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 27 March 2024

at

3:05pm

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, KW Ferrier, NF Hicks (via Audio Visual Link), SJ Kermode, AC Pointing and A Reilly.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr PE Hood – General Manager, Mr AS Butler – Director Infrastructure & Development, Mr CC Martin – Director – Corporate & Community and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant and Mr JR McDonald – Manager Roads.

**1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Nil.

MINUTES



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**2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2024:**

**CONFIRMATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MONDAY 11 MARCH 2024:**

159 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Berry and that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 28 February 2024 AND the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 11 March 2024, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

**3. BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR AUDIO VISUAL LINK ATTENDANCE:**

**4.1 Request by Cllr Hicks to Attend Meeting by Audio Visual Link**

160 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Pointing and Ferrier that Council **APPROVE** the request from Cllr Hicks to attend Council's Ordinary Meeting being today, Wednesday 27 March 2024, via audio visual link due to her being medically unfit to travel.

**5. MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil.

**CHANGE OF ORDER:**

161 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Noakes and Berry that the Order of Business be altered to bring the Closed Council Items through to be discussed now.

**13. CLOSED COUNCIL**

**13.1 Referral to Closed Council – New England Weeds Authority Request for Security Guarantee  
WO/2024/00500**

162 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Pointing that Council:

1. in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(2)(g) of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the matter of New England Weeds Authority Request for Security Guarantee be referred to be discussed in Closed Council and close the meeting to the public for the reason that the report relates to



advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege;

2. **RESOLVE INTO** Closed Council and the press and the public be excluded.

The Council moved into Closed Council at 3:07pm.

163 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** at 3:18pm on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks.

**PRESENT:** Present and IN Attendance were the same as listed in the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting with the exception of the press and the public.

The Chairman publicly declared the recommendations passed by the Committee whilst in Closed Council.

### **3.1 New England Weeds Authority Request for Security Guarantee**

**WO/2024/00490**

CC042/20232024 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Ferrier that Council:

1. **AUTHORISE** the provision of a guarantee as security for loan funding provided to the New England Weeds Authority;
2. That the amount of the guarantee, to be provided to the Commonwealth Bank, shall be \$119, 843 calculated in proportion to the Council's member contributions for the coming financial year, relative to the total member contributions of all four (4) constituent Councils: Glen Innes Severn, Armidale Regional, Uralla Shire and Walcha Councils;
3. That the Mayor and the General Manager are authorised to execute the loan security documents provided by the Commonwealth Bank.
4. That authorisation is provisional on receipt of written notice of resignation of all current members of the New England Weeds Authority County Council.

## **6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT**

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



## 6.1 Appoint Community Representatives to Advisory Committees

WO/2024/00483

165 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Reilly and Ferrier that Council **APPOINT**:

1. Fiona Barden and Glen O'Brien to the Walcha Council Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee;
2. Shannon Green-Griffen, Garry Towney, Valma (Sue) Green and Bernadine Green to the Walcha Council Aboriginal Advisory Committee;
3. Katie Street and Melanie Oppenheimer to the Walcha Council Arts Advisory Committee.

## 6.2 Review of Multiple Policies

WO/2024/00498

166 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Ferrier that Council **REVOKE** the following Policies:

1. Aids and Local Government Policy;
2. Award Restructuring Policy;
3. Cost Recovery – Damage to Council Property Policy;
4. Council – Senior Officers Policy;
5. Debtors – Ready Mix Concrete;
6. "D" Division of the Shires Association of NSW Policy;
7. Insurances Policy;
8. Legal Action Policy;
9. Management Audit Policy;
10. Minutes Policy;
11. Over or Under Budget Policy;
12. Plant – Private Use Policy;
13. Senior Staff Appointments – Degree of Consultation Policy;
14. Staff – Clerical, Engineering & Health Policy;
15. Staff General Policy;
16. Wet Weather Pay Policy;
17. Working Funds and Reserves Policy; and
18. Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy.

### Motion:

It was **MOVED** Clr Kermode Seconded Clr Ferrier that Council **REVOKE** the Section 355 Committee Policy.



On putting to the **VOTE** the **Motion** was **LOST**.

**7. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil.

**8. MATTERS OF URGENCY**

Nil.

**9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS**

**9.1 Office of the General Manager**

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

**9.2 Infrastructure & Development**

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

**9.3 Corporate & Community**

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

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

170 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks that Council **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the Committee Reports as presented

**10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2024 at Council Chambers**

**WO/2024/00243**

**10.2 Minutes of the Walcha Local Traffic Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 7 March 2024 at Council Chambers.**

**WO/2024/00480**

**11. DELEGATE REPORTS**

Nil.



**12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Clr Eric Noakes – Director Infrastructure & Development – Solid Waste – Woolbrook Waste Facility**

A report on the costs of running this facility and the behaviour of people using the facility. Waste dumping, gate open, etc.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:05PM.**