

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALCHA COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMILTON STREET, WALCHA ON
WEDNESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2008 COMMENCING AT 1.04PM**

PRESENT: Councillor WJ Heazlett (Chairman) Mayor, together with Councillors PR Blomfield, DJ Cross, JM Archdale, L Levingston, RS Thomson and MJ Woods.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr JG O'Hara (General Manager), Mr SC McCoy (Director – Engineering Services) and Mr GA Moran (Director – Environmental Services).

APOLOGIES:

326 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Blomfield that the apology from Councillor Ferrier, being absent due to being on an overseas holiday, be **ACCEPTED**.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES OF THE
WALCHA COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2007:**

327 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Archdale and Woods that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcha Council held on Wednesday, 19 December 2007, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

SENIOR OFFICERS' REPORTS

328 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Blomfield and Levingston that the Senior Officers' Reports be received for further consideration.

1. REVIEW OF CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

WINT/08/747

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

AFTERNOON TEA

Council adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.55pm and resumed at 3.27pm. Presentations were made to the winners of the 2007 Christmas Lights Competition

Councillor Blomfield left the Meeting at afternoon tea.

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2. DECEMBER 2007 MANAGEMENT PLAN COST REVIEW

WINT/08/809

329 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Archdale that Council adopt the December 2007 Quarterly Management Plan Review **FURTHER THAT** Council approve the variations in Income and Expenditure votes as detailed in the Internal Cost Review.

3. WALCHA JOCKEY CLUB – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

WINT/08/779

330 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Thomson and Cross that Council allocate \$2,000 to the Walcha Jockey Club to assist with the construction of a new female amenity block to be constructed at the Walcha Racecourse.

4. REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP – WALCHA MOUNTAIN BIKE TEAMS CHALLENGE

WINT/08/741

331 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Thomson and Cross that Council sponsor the Walcha Mountain Bike Teams Challenge for 2008 in the amount of \$2,500.

5. CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

WINT/08/776

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

6. ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY

WINT/08/804

332 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Woods that Council adopts the proposed Asset Management Policy.

ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY

OBJECTIVE:

To ensure that adequate provision is made for the long-term replacement of infrastructure assets.

PURPOSE:

To set guidelines for implementing consistent asset management processes throughout Council.

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POLICY:

Council shall apply the following principles for the implementation of consistent asset management processes throughout Council

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- *A consistent asset management strategy must exist for implementing systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best-practice throughout all departments of Council.*
- *All relevant legislative requirements together with political, social and economic environments are to be taken into account in asset management.*
- *Asset management principles will be integrated within existing planning and operational processes.*
- *An inspection regime will be used as part of asset management to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.*
- *Asset renewals required to meet agreed service levels and identified in infrastructure and asset management plans and long term financial plans will be fully funded in the annual budget estimates.*
- *Service levels agreed through the budget process and defined in infrastructure and asset management plans will be fully funded in the annual budget estimates.*
- *Asset renewal plans will be prioritised and implemented progressively based on agreed service levels and the effectiveness of the current assets to provide that level of service.*
- *Systematic and cyclic reviews will be applied to all asset classes and are to ensure that the assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice and applicable Australian Standards.*
- *Future life cycle costs will be reported and considered in all decisions relating to new services and assets and upgrading of existing services and assets.*
- *Future service levels will be determined in consultation with the community.*

7. REGIONAL MEETINGS FOLLOW UP ACTION PROGRESS REPORT
WINT/08/767

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

8. WALCHA PRESCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE – COMMITTEE MEMBERS
WINT/08/778

333 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Archdale and Thomson that Council appoint Michelle Power and Carley McLaren to the Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee **FURTHER THAT** Council write to Rachel Grieg and Erica expressing Council's appreciation for their dedication and commitment whilst serving on the Committee.

9. WALCHA STORES STOCKTAKE REPORT FOR 20 JUNE 2007
WINT/07/619

334 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Levingston that stock value adjustments totalling \$232.74 write on be made to inventory items detailed in the schedule.

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LATE REPORT

1. WALCHA STORES STOCKTAKE REPORT FOR 14 FEBRUARY 2008
WINT/08/813

335 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Levingston that stock value adjustments totalling \$122.09 write on be made to inventory items detailed in the schedule.

**10. SCAN ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING TERM 1 2008 & FUNDING
AGREEMENT FOR EARLY INTERVENTION – AFFIX COMMON
SEAL**
WINT/08/727

336 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Archdale that Council approve the affixing of the Common Seal to the following legal documents:

- ❖ Acceptance of Funding for Walcha Preschool – New England SCAN – Supporting Children with Additional Needs Term 1 2008.
- ❖ Acceptance of Funding for Early Intervention – Young Children with Disabilities – Department of Education and Training.

FURTHER THAT the affixing of the Common Seal be attested to by the Mayor and the General Manager.

**11. REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES – STREET STALLS & RAFFLES
POLICY**
WINT/08/652

337 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Levingston that Council adopt the Street Stall & Raffles Policy as presented.

Street Stalls & Raffles Policy

Objective

*To control the number of street stalls and raffles held in the town each year.
Corporate Plan – 7.4.1*

Policy

- a) *Street Stalls to be conducted on Fridays and Saturdays only (except Holy Thursday at Easter).*
- b) *Each organisation be limited to two (2) Street Stalls per year provided that where a surplus of dates is available they may be allocated at the discretion of the General Manager.*

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- c) *The Staff to be located outside the Newsagency in the Street Stall Shelter.*
- d) *Police permission to be obtained for Street Carnivals, if necessary.*
- e) *Council will not permit vehicles loaded with fire wood or other materials which are being offered as raffle prizes to be parked in the central business area in a manner that will disrupt normal parking or will utilise more than one (1) parking space.*
- f) *In the allocation of Street Stall dates priority will be given to locally based organisations. (For the purpose of this policy, locally based organisations are those that are based within the Walcha Shire; or have residents of the Shire conducting fundraising (ie, Camp Quality, local sporting Clubs.) Organisations based outside of the Shire and that do not have local residents acting on their behalf, are not classed as “locally based organisations”.)*

Reason

To regulate the timing and number of Street Stalls to be held in the town each year.

LATE ITEM

1. BLOOD BANK

The Director – Environmental Services advised the meeting that it was unlikely the re-introduction of the blood bank service to Walcha would occur even if a suitable venue was found. He further advised that the blood bank was investigating the introduction of a mobile blood bank for the area which would cost in the vicinity of \$750,000 but at this stage there is no time frame on the introduction on that service.

338 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Levingston that Council write to the Red Cross Blood Bank expressing our dissatisfaction with the time frames for the re-introduction of the service to Walcha and **FURTHER THAT** make representations to the Member for Northern Tablelands, Mr Richard Torbay expressing Council concerns.

WALCHA MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

WINT/08/640

339 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Thomson and Levingston that Council authorise the General Manager to investigate possible Class action against Lehman Bros for their handling of Council investments.

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340 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Cross that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 1 to 8 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

Committee Reports:

- a) Minutes of the Walcha Beautification & Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held in Walcha Council Chambers on Monday, 10 December 2007.
WINT/08/777
- b) Minutes of the Walcha Council Plant Committee Meeting held in Walcha Council Chambers on Monday, 25 February 2008. WINT/08/812

341 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Levingston that Council defer the replacement of plant items 5014, 5016, 5017, 5032 and 5033 and reallocate \$150,000 of these funds to the purchase of a second hand excavator and new skid steer loader.

Delegate Reports:

- a) Minutes of the New England Local Government group held at Guyra Shire Council Chambers on 5 November 2007. WO/07/200

342 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Archdale and Levingston that Council contribute \$2,000 for a lobby fund to promote the Northern Inland Rail Corridor.

- b) Minutes of the Walcha Australia Day Committee Meeting held at Walcha Council Chambers on Monday, 3 December 2007. WI/08/1385
- c) Minutes of the NESAC Equal Employment Opportunity Committee held at Uralla Shire Council Chambers on Thursday, 13 December 2007.
WI/08/1370
- d) Minutes of the Walcha Australia Day Committee Meeting held at Walcha Council Chambers on Monday, 7 January 2008. WI/08/1712
- e) Minutes of the NESAC Audit Committee Meeting held at Uralla Shire Council Chambers on Tuesday, 29 January 2008. WI/08/1788
- f) Minutes of the Advisory Committee of the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils held at Armidale Dumaresq Council Chambers on Monday, 4 February 2008. WI/08/1861
- g) Minutes of the New England Strategic Alliance Audit Committee Special Meeting held at Armidale Dumaresq Council on Thursday, 14 February 2008. WI/08/2062

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.22PM.