

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALCHA COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMILTON STREET, WALCHA ON  
WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH 2009 COMMENCING AT 4.20PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor WJ Heazlett (Chairman) Mayor, together with Councillors DJ Cross, JM Archdale, KW Ferrier, L Levingston, RS Thomson, MJ Woods and SJ Schmutter.

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

**APOLOGIES:**

NIL.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
WALCHA COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2009:**

145 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Ferrier that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcha Council held on Wednesday, 25 February 2009, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record with the following amendment:

Under Declarations of Interest – add the words “in-law” after Clr Archdale’s sister. So it reads “as Clr Archdale’s sister-in-law has a property on the Carrai Plateau.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF WALCHA COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2009:**

**Minutes Number 128 – Strategic Alliance Withdrawal**

The General Manager advised the Council of where the process was up to and distributed project plans to all of the Councillors. He further advised the next major item was the IT Tender which had been advertised and would close on Wednesday, 8 April 2009 at 12 noon.

**Minute Number 129 – Inquiry into Secure and Sustainable Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Services for Non-Metropolitan NSW – Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines**

The Director – Engineering Services advised Council that as a part of the Water Management Plan there is a requirement to form a reference group and then asked Councillors to nominate if they were interested in being a member of the Group and Councillor Schmutter agreed to be on that reference Group.

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Minute Number 131 – REPAIR Program for Thunderbolts Way – “Yerrawun” Corner  
The Director – Engineering Services advised the meeting that the RTA had withdrawn their offer of funding for the third REPAIR Program Project to realign and widen Thunderbolts Way 9.5km south of Walcha at “Yerrawun” in 2008/09.

**SENIOR OFFICERS’ REPORTS**

146 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Ferrier that the Senior Officers’ Reports be received for further information.

**1. ADDITIONAL CLERICAL STAFF FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**WINT/09/360**

147 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Archdale and Woods that Council amend its Organisation Structure to include an additional 12 month term part time position to provide administrative support for the Engineering Services Department.

**2. WOOLBROOK RECREATIONAL RESERVE TRUST – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**WINT/09/377**

148 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Archdale and Schmutter that Council obtain financial details of the proposal and the request be considered in the Council’s budgetary process.

**3. PRIVATE CEMETERY J & S GUERRINI LOT 263 IN DP 39749 OXLEY HIGHWAY**

**WINT/09/371**

149 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Thomson that Council approve the application by J & S Guerrini to use Lot 363 DP 39749 as a private cemetery be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. All operations are to be in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health (Disposal of Bodies) Act.
2. Detailed plans must be submitted to Council which clearly identify the location of the cemetery and its position on the site in relation to buildings and/or other permanent structures.
3. Burials on private land shall be limited to the immediate relatives of those owners of the land as at the date of the internment. In this regard “immediate relatives” shall mean parents (including foster and step-parents), legal guardian, sister (including half, foster and step-sister), brother (including half, foster and

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- step-brother), spouse (including de-factor partner and same sex partner), child (including step and foster child) and parents of spouse.
4. A permanent marker is to be placed at the site within twelve months of any burial.
  5. The cemetery area is not to be greater than 100sq. metres.
  6. The cemetery is to be permanently and suitably fenced to delineate the boundaries of the site and to secure the location.
  7. Bodies are not to be buried unless they have first been placed in a coffin and the lid securely sealed.
  8. When buried the upper surface of the coffin must not be less than 900mm below the natural surface level of the site where it is buried.
  9. No body is to be buried in a location where it would be likely to contaminate any water supply, NOTE: the burial site must be a minimum of fifty metres from any dam or watercourse including gullies, which form intermittent watercourse.
  10. A register of burials must be kept and immediately after a burial has been carried out enter into such register:
    - a. The name age and last address of the person whose body or remains have been buried.
    - b. The date of the persons death
    - c. The date of the burial
    - d. identification of the allotment where the burial has been made
    - e. the name of the undertaker who transported the body to the cemetery, and
    - f. The name of the person, if any, who conducted any ceremony at the burial.
    - g. A copy of the register is to be provided to Council.
  11. A plan showing the position of the burial allotments within the cemetery must be prepared and kept with the register at all times. A copy is to be provided to Council.

**4. SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW – 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**WINT/09/379**

150 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Archdale that Council approve the attendance of four representatives at the 2009 Annual Conference of the Shires Association of NSW, those representatives being the Mayor as Voting Delegate, and the General Manager and Councillors Schmutter and Thomson as observers **FURTHER THAT** the payment of all expenses associated with the attendance at the Conference be approved by Council.

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**5. WALCHA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**WINT/09/370**

It was **MOVED** Councillor Cross **Seconded** Councillor Woods that Council not accede to the request by the Walcha Junior Rugby League seeking \$3,000 for the purchase of a twelve (12) seater bus, **FURTHER** Council advise the Walcha Junior Rugby League that all NSW Grant opportunities can be found at [www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au).

An **Amendment** was Moved by Councillor Schmutter **Seconded** Councillor Ferrier that Council defer consideration of the matter until next Council Meeting and request clarification from the Rugby League as to how they will satisfy the requirements of the Ministry of Transport particularly the approvals required to operate a public vehicle for these purposes.

The **Amendment** on being put to the vote was **CARRIED**.

151 It then became the Substantive Motion and was put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

**6. LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**WINT/09/361**

152 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Archdale that Councillor Ferrier be the Local State Members' representation on the Traffic Committee.

**7. REQUEST FOR DONATION TO SUPPORT WALCHA AND DISTRICT VIETNAM VETERANS DAY 2009**

**WINT/09/303**

153 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Levingston that Council agree to the request of a donation of up to a maximum of \$500 to help meet the costs of the Walcha Vietnam Veterans Day **FURTHER THAT** invoices be submitted to Council for payment.

**8. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – WALCHA COUNCIL & NORTHERN RIVERS CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

154 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Ferrier that Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding Renewal between the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority and Walcha Council.

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**9. AFFIX COMMON SEAL – AGREEMENT TO REMOVE GRAVEL  
FROM A QUARRY – EASTERN HILLS**

**WINT/09/294**

155 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Ferrier that Council approve the affixing of the Common Seal to the following legal document:

- Agreement to remove gravel from a quarry between Walcha Council and Forest Enterprises Australia at “Eastern Hills” Walcha.

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

**LATE REPORTS**

**1. DECEMBER 2008 MANAGEMENT PLAN & BUDGET REVIEW**

**WINT/09/364**

156 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Schmutter that Council **ADOPT** the December 2008 Quarterly Management Plan Review **FURTHER THAT** Council approve the variations in Income and Expenditure votes as detailed in the December 2008 Budget review.

**2. SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WALCHA  
COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT SUB-COMMITTEE**

**WINT/09/402**

157 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Cross and Thomson that Council nominate Councillor Levingston as Council representative to be Deputy Chair on the Walcha Community Safety Precinct Committee.

**3. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 63-2009 – I & P GRIEG LEGG  
STREET, WALCHA**

**WINT/09/417**

158 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Ferrier that Development Application No. DA 63-2009 lodged by I & P Grieg to construct a dwelling at Lot 32 DP 542807 be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. The external finishes of the buildings are to be of colours blending with the landscape and not reflective in nature to ensure that the building is visually integrated with its environment.
2. A landscape plan including fencing details, are to be lodged with Council for approval. Council will require the landscaping to be substantially completed

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prior to an Occupation Certificate being issued. This plan is to include the maintenance of both the inner and outer protection zone

3. All building work must be carried out between 7:00am and 6pm Monday to Fridays and 8:00am to 5:00pm Saturdays excluding public holidays.
4. A new vehicular crossing, including layback, over the full width of the footpath, to provide an effective all-weather access to the site and a safe and nuisance free surface over Council's footpath is to be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Engineering Department.
5. The Architect to provide Council with amended details relating to compliance with Level 2 construction in accordance with AS 3959.
6. Standard conditions relating to the building being added under delegated authority.

**4. RETIREMENT SCHEME OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS**

The General Manager advised the Meeting that the Retirement Scheme for Local Government Superannuation had advised the Council that their would be a large increase in the contributions required by Council in the 2009/2010 financial year with the additional costs of the contributions being in the vicinity of \$220,000.

**WALCHA MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS**

**WINT/09/353**

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

**Committee Reports:**

- a) Minutes of the Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2009.

**Delegate Reports:**

- a) Minutes of the New England Bush Fire Management Committee Meeting held at Armidale Fire Control Centre on Tuesday, 13 January 2009.  
WI/09/1182
- b) Minutes of the New England Bush Fire Management Committee Meeting Walcha Sub-Committee held at Walcha Council Chambers on Monday, 16 February 2009.  
WI/09/1181

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- c) Minutes of the NamoiROC Meeting held at Narrabri Council Chambers on Friday, 20 February 2009. WI/09/1026
- d) Minutes of the NESAC & Walcha Council Biodiversity in High Country Urban Communities Steering Committee Meeting held at the Uralla Shire Council Chambers on Thursday, 26 February 2009. WI/09/1071

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5.35PM.**