



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 19 February 2020

at

3:46pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT: Clr EH Noakes (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors KW Ferrier, WJ Heazlett, JM Kealey, SJ Kermode and RL Wellings.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs AD Moddero – General Manager, Mrs LJ Latham – Environmental Services Manager, Mr DJM Reeves – Director - Engineering Services, Mrs RA Strobel – Chief Financial Officer and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. APOLOGIES:

112 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Kealey that the apology received from Councillor Lyon, reason undisclosed, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



LEAVE OF ABSENCE

113 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Kealey that the Leave of Absence from Clr Blomfield, having personal appointments, be **ACCEPTED**.

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2019:

114 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 18 December 2019, 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

Item 5.0: Mayoral Minute – Governance arrangements whenever the General Manager has a Conflict of Interest WO/2020/00371

Item 7.2: Installation of Solar Power at Walcha Preschool WINT/2020/00807

The General Manager declared a significant pecuniary interest as her spouse has an interest in a new company with the owners of Australian Water Machines, where Australian Water Machines may potentially be a Supplier to Walcha Council.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

Governance Arrangements whenever the General Manager has a Conflict of Interest

The General Manager left the Chambers and took no part in the debate.

115 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Mayor Noakes that:

1. in relation to the declaration of a potential Conflict of Interest by the General Manager, Anne Moddero, under Part 4 of the Council’s Code of Conduct adopted by the Council in February 2019 and relating to Ms Moddero’s family association with the company Australia Water Machines and its Directors, Stephen Shelley and David Wilkins, all dealings by Walcha Council with this company and its Directors be submitted to Council for approval to remove any decision making by the General Manager or under Delegation to the Deputy General Manager.

116 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Mayor Noakes

2. under Section 377 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the Council delegate to the Mayor the authority to engage legal or consult advice as required whenever the General Manager is unable to do so because of a potential or actual Conflict of Interest in a matter.



The General Manager returned to the Chambers and was informed of the resolutions.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

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

6.1 Quarterly Review of Operational Plan & Budget as at December 2019

WO/2020/00333

118 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Kealey that Council:
1. **ADOPT** the December 2019 Quarterly Budget Review Statements; and
2. **APPROVE** the variations in Income and Expenditure votes as detailed.

6.2 Final Audit Management Letter Year Ending June 2019 WO/2020/00341

119 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Kealey that the Report be **NOTED** By Council.

6.3 Draft Public Art Policy

WO/2020/00309

120 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Heazlett that Council:
1. **ENDORSE** the public exhibition of the amended Draft Public Art Policy for a period of 28 days; and
2. **ADOPT** the Draft Public Art Policy as presented subject to no submissions received during the exhibition period.

6.4 Pathway to Abolish Wards in Walcha LGA WINT/2020/00529

121 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Kermode that Council commence proceedings as defined in this report to hold a referendum at the September 2020 elections proposing to abolish wards within the Walcha LGA.

6.5 Delivery Program Six Monthly Review as at December 2019

WO/2020/00361

122 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Wellings that in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, and the Integrated Planning & Reporting legislation, Council **ADOPT** the Delivery Program 2017/2018 – 2020/2021 December 2019 six monthly review.

LATE REPORTS:

1.0 Development Application 10.2020.2 – Community Facility & Boundary Adjustment – 58S Derby Street, Walcha WO/2020/00445

123 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Ferrier that Council **APPROVE** Development Application 10.2020.2 for the construction of community facility and boundary adjustment on Lot 1 DP 1109857, Lot 181 DP 240261 and Lot



B DP 382548 primarily known as 58S Pakington Street, Walcha, as per the development conditions listed within the Development Assessment Report.

Being a Planning matter a **Division** was called prior to voting on this matter and the result was as follows:

For: Councillors: Ferrier, Heazlett, Kealey, Kermodé, Noakes and Wellings.

Against: Nil.

Absent: Blomfield and Lyon.

Declared Interest: Nil.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

9. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

10. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORT

WO/2020/00332

124 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 10.1 to 10.6 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Community Care Meeting held at the Walcha Royal Café on Monday, 16 December 2019. **WO/2020/00308**

7.1 Walcha Council Community Care and Walcha Council Early Intervention Policy Manual Review

125 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that the Walcha Council Community Care & Walcha Council Early Intervention Policy Manual be **ADOPTED** as presented.

LATE REPORT:

11.2 Minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held at the Walcha Council Chambers on Tuesday, 18 February 2020. **WO/2020/00469**

3.6 Soundtrails:

126 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that Council consider and cost the signage required to promote the use and availability of Soundtrails in Walcha.

4.1 Motorcycle Rally

127 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that Council establish a 355 Committee to provide strategic planning to the Walcha Motorcycle Rally with the following structure:



Members: Three to five (3-5) community members, Walcha Council Tourism Manager, Walcha Council Tourism Officer, one Councillor and the General Manager

Quorum: Five (5) people

Meetings: Three (3) times a year

128 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that Council make a submission that the “Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund” (\$100,000) be used as seed funding for the Walcha Motorcycle Rally (up to \$70,000) with the remainder used to facilitate capacity building and resilience of our local businesses to make the most of tourism and major event opportunities.

4.5 Project Priority List

- ◆ Soundtrails – Extend project to:
 - Walcha & District Historical Society Inc – history in Walcha.
 - Apsley Falls – National Parks purpose; flora, fauna, geological, indigenous significance and history, European significance and history; water/river/catchment etc.
 - Indigenous – history and stories around Walcha.
- ◆ Infrastructure – entrances
 - Apsley Falls entrance and verge
 - Signage for the four outlying shire boundaries (design already submitted through Arts Advisory Committee)
- ◆ Arts Based Tourism – footbridges at either end of the Apsley River Levee Bank walk
- ◆ Large Event Accommodation
 - Repurpose the Old Hospital or other buildings that come available.
 - Homestay Register – create a digital platform for people self registering their homes for events such as the Walcha Races, Walcha Motorcycle Rally, etc.
- ◆ Media & Social Media campaigns – to get businesses back to town. Glen Innes Highlands short promo was mentioned to view: <https://gleninneshighlands.com>

This item is to be taken on Notice.

4.6 Local Suggesting Events:

That Council consider in the 2021 Budget an allocation of \$20,000 to the Tourism Budget specifically for enabling events to be held in Walcha with all events that apply for the funding will have to submit an event plan, business plan and budget for approval to Council.



4.7 Imagery for immediate Media Use:

Council to explore options to source high quality images showcasing all aspects of Walcha to push through social media hashtag movements for immediate tourism recovery.

Items 4.6 & 4.7 are taken on notice by Council either as work already being undertaken or work to be completed before next meeting for consideration in the Budget.

12. DELEGATE REPORTS

12.1 Minutes of the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc Meeting held at the Caretakers Cottage, Derby Street, Walcha on Saturday, 23 November 2019.

WI/2020/02097

12.2 Minutes of the Walcha Community Consultative Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 11 February 2020 at Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha.

WI/2020/02106

7. CLOSED COUNCIL

7.0 Referral to Closed Council – NRMA Electric Vehicle Charging Station AND Installation of Solar Power at Walcha Preschool WO/2020/00384

129 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Ferrier that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matters of NRMA Electric Vehicle Charging Station AND Installation of Solar Power at Walcha Preschool be referred to be discussed in a Closed Council and close the meeting to the public for the reasons that the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

LATE REPORT:

7A Referral to Closed Council – Walcha Truck Wash Bay AND Tender for Specialist Consulting Services for Walcha Off Stream Storage

130 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Ferrier that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Termination of Contractor for Walcha Truck Wash Bay AND Tender for Specialist Consulting Services for Walcha Off Stream Storage be referred to be discussed in Closed Council and close the meeting to the public for the reasons that the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

IN: 5:53

131 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Kealey that Council resolve into Closed Council and that the press and public be excluded from the entire



proceedings of the Meeting of the Closed Council for the reason that they relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

OUT: 6:17pm

132 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Kermode and Heazlett.

The Mayor reported whilst in Closed Council the following matters were discussed.

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.

7.1 NRMA Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Station WO/2020/00145

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kermode that Council:

1. Note the Letter of Intent from NRMA;
2. Support the project to proceed as outlined in the Letter of Intent (LOI); and
3. Delegate authority to the General Manager to sign the LOI on behalf of Walcha Council.

7.2 Installation of Solar Power at Walcha Preschool WINT/2020/00807

The General Manager declared an interest in this matter and item 7.2 and left the Meeting.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillor Kermode and Ferrier that Council provide all quotes and request for quotes, all documentation in full, to Council for determination.

The General Manager returned to the Chambers and was informed of the Recommendations.

LATE REPORTS:

7.3 Termination of Contractor for Walcha Truck Wash Bay

WINT/2020/01010

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Ferrier that Council:

1. Approve the termination of the Appointed Contractor to construct the Walcha Truck Wash Bay.
2. Authorise the General Manager to take control of the Walcha Truck Wash Bay construction and deliver the project using internal and contracted resources.



**7.4 Tender for Specialist Consulting Services – Walcha Off Stream Storage
WINT/2020/01000**

That the Committee **RECOMMEND** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that Council:

1. Authorise the General Manager to award the Tender for Specialist Consulting Services – Walcha Off Stream Storage to Hunter H2O Holdings; and
2. Approves the total budget allocation for the delivery of this work, inclusive of contingency.

ADOPTION OF CLOSED COUNCIL

133 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that the Report and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Walcha Council Closed Council held on Wednesday, 19 February 2020 be **ADOPTED** by Council.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6:20PM**