



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 27 March 2019

at

2:25pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr JG O'Hara, General Manager and Mr DJM Reeves, Director – Engineering Services, and Ms EIM Cumming, Contract Planner.

1. APOLOGIES:

Nil.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2019:

128 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Heazlett that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 13 February 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

Nil.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

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

6.1 Draft Walcha Bush Fire Prone Land Map WINT/2019/00990

130 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Ferrier that Council:

- a) Endorse the Draft Walcha Bush Fire Prone Land Map; and
- b) Request the NSW Rural Fire Services Commissioner to certify the Draft Walcha Bush Fire Prone Land Map.

6.2 Parliamentary Counsel Option for Planning Proposal 1

WINT/2019/01201

131 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kealey that Council request the Secretary of NSW Planning & Environment to draft an instrument as per Section 3.37(d) of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and that the draft instrument be sent to Parliamentary Counsel for an Opinion.

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

For: Councillors: Noakes, Blomfield, Ferrier, Heazlett, Kealey, Kermode, Lyon and Wellings.

Against: Nil.

Absent: Nil.

Declared Interest: Nil.

Ms EIM Cumming left the Meeting.



6.3 Walcha & District Historical Society Inc – Request for Loan for Drainage Problem at 111N Derby Street WO/2019/00478

Motion:

It was **MOVED** Clr Heazlett **Seconded** Clr Kermode that Council provide the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc with an interest free loan of \$16,000 over a five year period **FURTHER THAT** the General Manager be authorised to negotiate the payment frequency with the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc.

Amendment:

An **Amendment** was **MOVED** Clr Lyon **Seconded** Clr Blomfield that Council undertake the improvement work for an amount of \$15,000 GST inclusive and then provide the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc with an interest free loan of \$15,000 over a five year period **FURTHER THAT** the General Manager be authorised to negotiate the payment frequency with the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc.

The Amendment was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

132 It then became the Substantive Motion and was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

6.4 Review Roadside Vegetation Policy WO/2019/00441

133 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Wellings that the Draft Roadside Vegetation Policy be **ADOPTED** by Council.

6.5 Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Membership Nominations WO/2019/00518

134 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that Council **APPOINT** Jordy Young and Sarah Fletcher to the Walcha Council Preschool Advisory Committee **FURTHER THAT** Council write to Kimberley Lisle and Melika McKinnon expressing Council's appreciation for their dedication and commitment whilst serving on the Committee.

6.6 Easy to do Business (EtdB) – Service NSW WO/2019/00517

135 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Wellings that Council:

1. Delegate authority to the General Manager to enter into a contract with Service NSW for the Easy to do Business initiative; and
2. Approve the affixing of the Common Seal to all necessary documentation associated with the Easy to do Business Program **FURTHER THAT** the affixing of the Common Seal be attested to by the Mayor and the General Manager.

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.



8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Clr Lyon raised the matter of the *Seaview Classic* as a matter of urgency.

136 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Mayor Noakes that the matter of *Seaview Classic* be discusses as a matter of urgency.

137 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Ferrier that Council provide the organisers of the Seaview Classic with a letter of support.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS WO/2019/00492

138 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Blomfield that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 9.1 to 9.16 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

Afternoon Tea:

The Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm for afternoon tea and reconvened at 4:00pm.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

- 11.1 Minutes of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council Meeting held at the Armidale Office, Rusden Street, Armidale on Tuesday 16 October 2018. WI/2018/12482
- 11.2 Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting held at Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers on Tuesday, 5 February 2019. WI/2019/02916
- 11.3 Minutes of the Walcha Community Centre Management Committee (MPC) Annual General Meeting held at the Walcha Central School on Monday, 18 February 2019. WI/2019/02259
- 11.4 Minutes of the Walcha Community Centre Management Committee (MPC) General Meeting held at Walcha Central School on Monday, 18 February 2019. WI/2019/02259
- 11.5 Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting held at the Living Classroom at Bingara in the Gwydir Shire Council. WI/2019/03260
- 11.6 Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Meeting held at Parliament House, Sydney on Friday, 8 March 2019. WI/2019/02874

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

12. Committee of the Whole Referral – Request for Assistance – Walcha Men’s Shed; Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Members; and Request for Rate Relief



139 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(2)(a) and (c) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Applications for Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Membership, Request for Assistance – Walcha Men’s Shed and Request for Rate Relief be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that they relate to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) AND the matters of Request for Assistance – Walcha Men’s Shed be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that they would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

140 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that Council resolve into Committee of the Whole and that the press and public be excluded from the entire proceedings of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole for the reason that they relate to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) AND to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

141 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode.

The Mayor reported whilst in Committee of the Whole 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 and Ms EIM Cumming.

12.1 Request for Assistance – Walcha Men’s Shed WINT/2019/01275

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode that Council agree to assist the Walcha Men’s Shed in sourcing an alternate venue for their operations.

12.2 Applications for Walcha Council Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Independent Representative WINT/2019/01270

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Ferrier and Lyon that Council **APPOINT** Deborah Creed to the vacant Audit, Risk & Improvement Representative **FURTHER THAT** Council **APPOINT** all Independent Members of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee for a three year term ending March 2023.



12.3 Request for Rate Relief WO/2019/00444

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Lyon and Wellings that Council decline the request but offer the ratepayer a payment plan interest free over a period of eighteen (18) months.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

12.1 Request for Assistance – Walcha Men’s Shed WINT/2019/01275

142 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode that Council agree to assist the Walcha Men’s Shed in sourcing an alternate venue for their operations.

12.2 Applications for Walcha Council Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Independent Representative WINT/2019/01270

143 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode that Council **APPOINT** Deborah Creed to the vacant Audit, Risk & Improvement Representative **FURTHER THAT** Council **APPOINT** all Independent Members of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee for a three year term ending March 2023.

12.3 Request for Rate Relief WO/2019/00444

144 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode that Council decline the request but offer the ratepayer a payment plan interest free over a period of eighteen (18) months.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:40PM.