



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 27 April 2022

at

3.20pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

The Audio Statement and Acknowledgement of Country were read by the Chairman.

PRESENT: Cllr EH Noakes (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors MA Berry, KW Ferrier, NF Hicks, SJ Kermode, AC Pointing, A Reilly and GDM Schaefer.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr BWC Omundson – General Manager, Mrs LJ Latham – Director Environment & Development, Mr PE Hood – Director Infrastructure, Mr CC Martin – Manager Corporate & Finance and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2022:

171 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Schaefer that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 30 March 2022, 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 7.1 – Notice of Motion Number 20: State Government New England Renewable Energy Zone WO/2022/01153

Clr Schaefer declared a Pecuniary Interest – Conflict of Interest in this item due to being a Director / Shareholder of Walcha Wind and a host landowner for Winterbourne Wind and will leave the Chambers whilst this item is discussed.

Clr Berry declared a Pecuniary conflict of interest in this matter due to being the Chairman of RED4NE – Responsible Energy Development for New England and will leave the Chambers whilst this item is discussed.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

172 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Schaefer that the Senior Officers' Reports be **RECEIVED** for further consideration.

6.1 2021 Motorcycle Rally Final Report Update WO/2022/01154

173 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Berry that Council:

1. **RESOLVE** to seed-fund, underwrite and manage the Walcha Motorcycle Rally for a period of three (3) years, noting annual financial risk allocation of \$155,000 and an allocated annual budget of \$35,000.
2. **NOTE** that the 2024 Rally is the final Council financial risk supported event; and
3. **AUTHORISE** the General Manager to have an independent economic review of the success of the Rally post the 2024 event, and further
4. **UPON** receipt of the economic analysis report the new Council provide direction as to Council's role, if any, in future Motorcycle Rally events.

6.2 Walcha Council Financial Sustainability Review WO/2022/01157

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

1. **AGREE** to seek quotations for services to conduct a financial sustainability review including engagement, reporting and submission for a possible Special Rate Variation;



2. **PROVIDES** a budget up to \$120,000 ex GST for the initial financial sustainability review including engagement, reporting and submission for a Special Rate Variation should Council so resolve;
3. **REALLOCATE** the funding for the review from internal allocations for infrastructure replacement.

6.3 Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Parent Nominations

WO/2022/00977

175 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Reilly and Pointing that Council **APPOINT** Alyce Notley to the Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee.

6.4 Appoint Community Representation to Advisory Committees

WO/2022/01151

176 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Schaefer and Hicks that Council **APPOINT**:

1. Paula Jenkins, James Rogers and Stephen King to the Arts Advisory Committee;
2. Gweneth Higgins, Jim Hallernan, Phyllis Hoy, Caroline Street, Peter Blomfield and Stephen King to the Beautification Advisory Committee;
3. Tracey Hoy, Karen Barnes, Shane Carey, Jason Cox, Andy Burwell and Kim Barnett to the Walcha Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee;
4. Sue Reardon and Patricia Laurie to the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee **FURTHER THAT** Council readvertise for nominations to the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee.

6.5 Tourism Advisory Committee Reinstated

WO/2022/01119

177 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Pointing that Council reinstate the Tourism Advisory Committee utilising the generic Terms of Reference previously adopted **FURTHER THAT** Councillor Reilly be appointed as Council's representative on the Committee.

6.6 Prepaid Financial Assistance Grants

WINT/2022/02576

- 178 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Pointing that Council:
1. internally restricts the prepaid portion of the 2022/23 Financial Assistance Grants;
 2. ensures that the prepaid portion of the 2022/23 Financial Assistance Grants be unrestricted on 01 July 2022.

6.7 Pecuniary Interest Initial (Primary) Returns from Staff & Councillors

WO/2022/01125

179 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Pointing that Council formally records the Initial Primary Returns of Pecuniary Interest required to be submitted by Councillors and Designated Staff, have been submitted and tabled in



accordance with the provisions of Section 4.21(a) and 4.25 of the Walcha Council Model Code of Conduct 2020.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 Notice of Motion Number 20: State Government New England Renewable Energy Zone WO/2022/01153

Clr Schaefer declared a pecuniary interest and Clr Berry declared a pecuniary interest and left the room at 3:37pm and therefore took no part in the debate.

Motion:

It was **Moved** Councillors Noakes **Seconded** Ferrier that Council **ENDORSE** and support the position put forward by the Mayor of Walcha Council and the Armidale, Uralla, Glen Innes Severn and Inverell Councils' with respect offsetting the financial and social burden associated with the State Governments New England Renewable Energy Zone and including any energy project through the adoption of a set of Local Government essential criteria and three desirable criteria as contained within this report.

Clr Reilly **MOVED** a **FORESHADOWED Motion** that Council defer the Notice of Motion to give Council another month to consider further information particularly to connection fees and implications of the Renewable Energy Zone legislation.

180 The **Original Motion** was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

For: Councillors: Noakes, Kermode, Ferrier & Pointing

Against: Councillors Hicks & Reilly

Declared Interest: Councillors Berry & Schaefer

The **FORESHADOWED Motion** therefore **LAPSED**.

Councillors Schaefer & Berry returned to the Chambers at 3:42pm and were informed of the decision.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

9.1 Office of the General Manager WO/2022/01015

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

9.2 Infrastructure WO/2022/01155

182 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Schaefer that items included in the Infrastructure Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.



9.3 Environment & Development

WO/2022/01146

183 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Hicks that items included in the Environment & Development Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.4 Community & Tourism

WO/2022/00899

184 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Ferrier that items including in the Community & Tourism Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Capital Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday 14 April 2022 at the Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha.

WO/2022/01158

4.2.1 LRCI Round 3 Project List

186 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kermode that Council nominate the following projects for inclusion in the \$1,183,592 Local Road and Community Infrastructure Phase 3 Grant Funding allocation to be delivered in 2022/2023:

- \$441,250 for kerb and gutter works in Walcha (North Street, Hill Street, Pakington Street).
- \$247,515 for Rectification of Old Brookmount Culvert over Emu Creek.
- \$180,000 for Causeway Restoration at Draytons Creek on Hazeldean Road.
- \$55,000 for Crocodile Bridge, Rose Garden Stage 2, Mill Hole and Hospital Wall.
- \$150,000 to Aberbaldie Road Heavy Patching.
- \$109,827 to Lakes Road Gravel Resheeting.

4.2.2 Jet Patcher Business Case

187 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Pointing that Council purchase Jet-Patcher Plant and supporting equipment for \$600,000 via a loan, based on the business case presented at April 2022 Capital Advisory Committee subject to a site visit to inspect patching and other works currently done by similar plant eg: Derby Street.

4.2.3 New Skid-Steer Business Case

188 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Pointing and Berry that Council **ENDORSES** the purchase of the new Bobcat T770 skid-steer and Simex PL60 Planer for \$197,000, using proceeds from sale of 2011 Bobcat Skid-steer profiler unit and 2016 Case skid-steer totalling \$99,000 with remaining funds sourced via loan.



11. DELEGATE REPORTS

Nil.

12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

13. CLOSED COUNCIL

13A Referral to Closed Council – Tender Evaluation for Green Waste

189 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Schaefer that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Tender Evaluation for Green Waste be **REFERRED** to be discussed in Closed Council and close the meeting to the public for the reason that it relates to information that would if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

190 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Schaefer 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 the matter relates to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

191 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Ferrier.

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 resolutions passed by the Council whilst in Closed Council.

13.1 Tender Evaluation of Green Waste

WINT/2022/02765

CC22/20212022 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Hicks and Schaefer that Council **AWARD** Tender No. W22/54 Bushfire Generated Waste Clean-Up and Processing to OK Earthmoving for the lump sum of \$804,000 GST exclusive.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:38PM.