



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 01 September 2021

at

3.05pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

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

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 Barry Omundson – General Manager, Mrs LJ Latham – Director Environment & Development, Mr PR Murray – Director Infrastructure, Mrs Karen Kermode – Director Community & Tourism and Mrs EL Hobbs – Executive Assistant.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 JULY 2021:

16 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Heazlett that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 July 2021, 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 6.1 Draft Amendment to Walcha Development Control Plan 2019

WO/2021/03202

Clr Blomfield declared a pecuniary interest in this matter as he is a Director of Walcha Wind Pty Ltd and is also involved with Winterbourne Wind.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

5.1 Vale Justin King

WO/2021/03535

From the Mayor: The Walcha community was saddened to hear last week of the passing of long time Walcha pharmacist Justin King. An iconic figure during his 53 years of service and caring to our community, the true depth of Justin's generosity and benevolence to his community may never be fully known. Even after retiring and moving away Justin continued to support Walcha in many areas and that respect and caring for our town never waned. To Justin's extended family Walcha Council offers our condolences and thoughts for a life well lived.

Thank you

Mayor Eric Noakes

17 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Mayor Noakes that the Mayoral Minute as read and submitted be **ADOPTED** by Council.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

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

6.1 Draft Amendment to Walcha Development Control Plan 2019

WO/2021/03202

Clr Blomfield left the Meeting at 3.11pm and took no part in the debate.

19 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode that Council



1. Place the *Draft Amended Walcha Development Control Plan 2019* on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. If no submissions are received or amendments made, give the General Manager delegation to adopt the *Draft Amended Walcha Development Control Plan 2019*.

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, Kermode, Lyon, Noakes and Wellings.

Against: Nil.

Absent: Nil.

Declared Interest: Councillor Blomfield.

Being a Planning Matter a Division was called prior to Voting:

Clr Blomfield returned to the Chambers at 3:15pm and was advised of the resolution.

6.2 Walcha Central School P & C Request for Funding a Drive In Movie Night WO/2021/03510

It was **MOVED** Clr Ferrier **Seconded** Clr Kealey that Council:

1. **APPROVE** the request of Walcha Central School P & C for a donation of \$2,000 to their Drive-in Movie Night from the existing youth budget.
2. **APPROVE** the use of Council facilities and movie equipment for no cost.
3. The funding be returned to Council if the event does not go ahead.

An **Amendment** was **MOVED** Clr Lyon **Seconded** Clr Wellings that Council:

1. place the Walcha Central School P & C Request for Funding for the Drive In Movie Night on hold as they have deferred the night from September 2021 to April 2022 which gives Council time to investigate alternate grant funding opportunities rather than approving the expenditure of funds from Council's operational budget.
2. Write a letter to Walcha Central School P & C advising that Council supports the application in its entirety however are investigating exhausting grant funding opportunities prior to approving the donation from the existing youth budget.

On being put to the **VOTE** the **Amendment** was **CARRIED**.

Councillor Heazlett recording his vote **AGAINST** this **Amendment**.

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

Councillor Heazlett recorded his vote **AGAINST** this **Motion**.



6.3 Referendum & Draft Constitution Program WO/2021/03516

21 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Heazlett that Council **APPROVE** the *Walcha With Wards and Walcha Without Wards* Poster and **AUTHORISE** the General Manager to Register the Poster as Electoral Material for Distribution on Election Day as well as advertised before Election Day.

6.4 Service NSW for Business Agreement with Walcha Council WO/2021/03455

22 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Ferrier that Council **AUTHORISE** the General Manager to enter into the Business Partnership with Service NSW by executing the Agreement.

6.5 Financial Assistance Grants 2021-2022 WO/2021/03534

23 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Kermode that Council:

1. **NOTE** the Report;
2. **REVIEW** disability factors to determine if Walcha Council can provide a submission on the financial impact of potential future reductions in the General Purpose Component (GPC) relating to 2022-2023 Grants.

6.6 Regional Meetings Schedule 2021 WO/2021/03451

24 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Ferrier that Council **APPROVE** the Regional Meetings Schedule for 2021 as follows:

Monday, 11 October 2021

- 11.30pm Moona/Winterbourne – Europambela Shearers’ Quarters
- 2.30pm Ingleba Hall
- 6.00pm Walcha Council Chambers

Wednesday, 13 October 2021

- 9.00am Yarrowitch Hall
- 11.30am Brackendale – “Brockley Park” Woolshed
- 2.30pm Nowendoc Hall
- 6:00pm Woolbrook School Library

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 Notice of Rescission Motion #22 – Grant Project Update April 2021 WO/2021/03519

25 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Noakes and Lyon that Minute No.: 227 passed at 28 April 2021 Council Meeting, copy below, be **RESCINDED**, particularly Part 1(i) Walcha Gym – external painting - \$25,000.:



6.4 Grant Program Update

WO/2021/01141

227 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Blomfield that Council:

1. Amend the budget allocations to the following Local Roads & Community Infrastructure projects at the next Quarterly Budget Review to ensure all projects are appropriately funded within the total grant of \$1,067,914:
 - a) McHattan Park works to improve access and facilities - \$58,000
 - b) Construct Levee Bank Pedestrian Underpass - \$20,000
 - c) Improve Walcha Preschool Access Road - \$6,000
 - d) Level Footpath Area at Lions Park - \$25,000
 - e) Walcha Preschool – Air Conditioning - \$15,000
 - f) Walcha Gym Security– Install CCTV- \$6,200
 - g) Walcha Gym – Improve Signage - \$6,000
 - h) Electrical Safety Upgrades – Complete High Priority Works- \$114,714 or any available under expenditure of the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure program.
 - i) **Walcha Gym – external painting - \$25,000**
2. Amend the budget allocations to the following Bushfire Recovery Funded projects at the next Quarterly Budget Review to ensure all projects are appropriately funded within the total grant of \$1,275,000:
 - a) Rebuild Approval Process Subsidy for bushfire impacted properties - \$4,000
 - b) Kangaroo Flat Road – Removal of fire debris - \$7,500
 - c) Forest Way Road – Sealing works – \$275,728

FURTHER THAT Council replace Minute No 227 with the following:

1. Amend the budget allocations to the following Local Roads & Community Infrastructure projects at the next Quarterly Budget Review to ensure all projects are appropriately funded within the total grant of \$1,067,914:
 - a) McHattan Park works to improve access and facilities - \$58,000
 - b) Construct Levee Bank Pedestrian Underpass - \$20,000
 - c) Improve Walcha Preschool Access Road - \$6,000
 - d) Level Footpath Area at Lions Park - \$25,000
 - e) Walcha Preschool – Air Conditioning - \$15,000
 - f) Walcha Gym Security– Install CCTV- \$6,200
 - g) Walcha Gym – Improve Signage - \$6,000
 - h) Electrical Safety Upgrades – Complete High Priority Works- \$114,714 or any available under expenditure of the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure program.
2. Amend the budget allocations to the following Bushfire Recovery Funded projects at the next Quarterly Budget Review to ensure all projects are appropriately funded within the total grant of \$1,275,000:
 - a) Rebuild Approval Process Subsidy for bushfire impacted properties -



- \$4,000
- b) Kangaroo Flat Road – Removal of fire debris - \$7,500
- c) Forest Way Road – Sealing works – \$275,728

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

9.1 Office of the General Manager

WO/2021/03526

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

9.2 Infrastructure

WO/2021/03426

27 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that items included in the Infrastructure Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.3 Environment & Development

WO/2021/03209

28 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Kealey that items included in the Environment & Development Management Report be **NOTED** by Council.

9.4 Community & Tourism

WO/2021/03355

29 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Lyon that items included in the Community & Tourism Management Review Report be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

30 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that Council **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the following Delegate Reports / Minutes.

11.1 Minutes of the Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting held in Tamworth on Tuesday, 03 August 2021 **WI/2021/012272**



12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Councillor Lyon requested the following information:

- Roads to Recovery (R2R) it was advised through a Councillor Workshop that \$470,000 was unspent. Request a report to Council advising the reason why and who is responsible for that.
- Development Applications for Bushfire victims from Bushfire Funding – there was \$10,000 left set aside for those victims wishing to re-build. Question is where is that money now; has it been allocated somewhere else?
- Lowanna Bridge unspent funds. Question is where is that money and does Council get to reallocate that money?

13. CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3:43PM.