



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2016

COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present:

Councillors: Cr. Paul Maytom (Mayor), Cr. George Weston (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Peter Davidson, Cr. Tracey Morris, Cr. Michael Kidd, Cr. Paul Smith, Cr. Tony Ciccia, Cr Sandra Nardi and Cr. Tony Reneker

Staff: Jackie Kruger (General Manager), Duncan McWhirter (Director Corporate Services), Barry Heins (Director Engineering and Technical Services), Josh Clyne (Acting Director Environmental and Community Services), and Brent Lawrence (Corporate Communications Coordinator)

Press: Talia Pattison (The Irrigator)

1. **CIVIC PRAYER** – Cr Tony Ciccia
2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** Cr Paul Maytom

3. **APOLOGIES**

16/170

Resolved

Nil

The General Manager advised that the Director of Environmental and Community Services Mr Garry Stoll is on leave and returning to work on Monday 28 November 2016.

Mr Josh Clyne is the Acting Director in Mr Stoll's absence and attended the meeting on his behalf.

(Moved Cr Davidson, seconded Cr Morris)

4. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

16/171

Resolved

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday, October 19 2016, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr Ciccia, seconded Cr Morris)

5. **MAYORAL MINUTES** - Nil
6. **NOTICES OF MOTION** - Nil
7. **OFFICER'S REPORT**

CORPORATE SERVICES MATTERS

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

16/172

THAT Standing Orders be suspended at 7.05pm to allow presentation of the Auditor's Reports for the year ending 30 June, 2016.

(Moved Cr Davidson, seconded Cr Weston)

Ms Danielle Mackenzie of Crowe Howarth made a presentation on the Auditor's Financial Reports 2015/16.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

16/173

THAT the meeting be resumed at 7.30pm to deal with the balance of the items on the Agenda.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Morris)

Item 7.1 AUDITORS' REPORTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

16/174

Resolved

THAT Council notes the presentation by the Auditor on the 2015/16 Financial Reports for Leeton Shire Council.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Reneker)

Item 7.2 MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS STASTICS REPORT 1/09/15 – 31/08/16

16/175

Resolved

THAT Council notes contents of the Code of Conduct Complaints Report 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016 that has been forwarded to the Office of Local Government.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Kidd)

Item 7.3 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - SEPTEMBER QUARTER 2016

16/176

Resolved

THAT:

1. The review of Council's Operational Budget as at 30 September 2016 be noted and the variations contained in the Quarterly Budget Review statement (see attachment pages 3, 4 and 16) be voted.
2. The transfer of \$10,000 from the Infrastructure Restriction for a new Leeton Shire Council web site be voted.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Morris)

**Item 7.4 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING - ANNUAL
REPORT 2015/16**

16/177

Resolved

THAT the 2015/2016 Leeton Shire Council Annual Report be adopted and lodged with the Minister of Local Government.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Smith)

**Item 7.5 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING - QUARTERLY
REVIEW AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

16/178

Resolved

THAT Council notes the progress in relation to the Leeton Shire Council Delivery Program and Operating Plan for the quarter ended 30 September 2016.

(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Morris)

Item 7.6 INVESTMENTS - DIVIDENDS - INVESTMENTS OCTOBER 2016

16/179

Resolved

THAT the information contained in the report on Investments be noted.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Ciccio)

Item 7.7 EMERGENCY SERVICES PROPERTY LEVY

16/180

Resolved

THAT Council formally notes the information in relation to the introduction of the Emergency Services Property Levy (ESPL).

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Davidson)

Item 7.8 INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP

16/181

Resolved

THAT

1. Council accepts the resignation of Shireen Donaldson from the Internal Audit Committee and writes to thank her for her contribution to the Committee.
2. Council appoints Mr Emerson Doig onto the Internal Audit Committee from now until the next Local Government Election scheduled in 2020.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Nardi)

**Item 7.9 WHITTON COMMUNITY HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
AGM MINUTES - 4 OCTOBER 2016**

16/182

Resolved

THAT Council formally notes the Whitton Community Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting Minutes from the 4 October 2016.

(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Smith)

ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES MATTERS

**Item 7.10 REDISTRIBUTION OF ROADS TO RECOVERY FUNDING FOR
2016/17 AND 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEARS**

16/183

Resolved

THAT Council

1. Notes the funding distribution changes to the 2016/2017 and the 2017/18 Roads to Recovery program.
2. Notes the associated changes to the 2016/17 capital works program.
3. Notifies residents of the changed 2016/17 capital works program through appropriate media.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Ciccia)

**Item 7.11 LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 10
NOVEMBER 2016**

16/184

Resolved

That Council resolves to endorse and adopt the following resolutions of the Local Area Traffic Committee as detailed in the Minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 10 November 2016.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Kidd)

Item 2 – Washington’s Furniture – Request Change to Existing No Stopping Zone

Resolution:

That the Committee endorses the request from Washington’s Furniture to extend the existing No Stopping zone and sign approximately 20 metres south east along Kurrajong Avenue if no dissent is received from the adjoining land owner Bells Produce.

Item 3 –PAMP Design for Cudgel Street, Yanco

Resolution:

That the Committee receives this information and endorses the installation of the PAMP works at Cudgel Street.

Item 4 – PAMP Design Cherry Avenue

Resolution:

That the Committee receives this information and endorses the installation of the PAMP works at Cherry Avenue.

Item 5 – Road Closure Requests, Murami-Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club

Resolution:

That the Committee approves to hold the Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club to run an Australian Carriage driving society Combined Driving Event on Leeton Shire local roads subject to the schedule of conditions as outlined in the RMS Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events including the following conditions:

- a) The event is conducted as per times, location of conditions and circumstances that are indicated in the application documents.
- b) Event organisers and participants immediately obey all directions by police

- c) Event organisers and participants immediately obey all direction by Leeton Shire Council Officers.
- d) Advertising of the event is to take place in local newspapers to ensure locals are aware of the event
- e) Failure to comply with any of the above conditions will immediately void this approval.
- f) Public Liability Certificate that notes Leeton Shire Council, NSW Police and RMS as interested parties on the certificates.

Item 6 – Request for Installation of Rumble Strips at MR80/Murrami Road Intersection

Resolution:

That the Committee endorses that Council installs rumble strips on the North and South sides of Murrami Road to reduce excessive speeds on the approaches to the intersection if the General Manager of Safer Roads approves the traffic treatment.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MATTERS

Item 7.12 JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANELS

16/185

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Appoints two Councillors as Leeton Shire Council members of the Western Joint Regional Planning Panel for a 3 year term commencing 24 November 2016.
2. Appoints three community members as alternative members representing Leeton Shire Council on the Western Joint Regional Planning Panel for a 3 year term commencing 24 November 2016, being Mr Ray Pluis, Mr Emerson Doig and Mr Greg O'Callaghan.
3. Approves a sitting fee of \$200 per day in cases where an appointed community member represents Leeton Shire Council on the Western Joint Regional Planning Panel.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Morris)

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cr George Weston declared a non-significant non-pecuniary interest declaration for Item 7.13 Council's Community Grants Round 1 – 2016/2017 as he is a general member of the Rotary Club of Leeton Inc and the Leeton and District Historical Society Inc. Cr Weston made the declaration, stayed in the Chamber and participated in the debate and voted.

Item 7.13 COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 1 2016/2017

16/186

Resolved

That Council approves the following applications for assistance to Round 1 2016-17 Community Strengthening Grants Scheme:

• Leeton Community Christmas	\$ 200
• Inner Wheel Club of Leeton	\$ 390
• Lions Club of Leeton Inc.	\$3,000
• Leeton Harness Racing Club	\$1,000
• Leeton Family and Historical Society Inc.	\$1,400
• Rotary Club of Leeton Inc.	<u>\$1,500</u>
Total	<u>\$7,490</u>

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Reneker)

8. STATEMENTS BY COUNCILLORS

Cr Weston

Commended the staff involved with facilitating the draft Leeton Community Strategic Plan Stakeholder meetings.

He also noted that he would like to see the name of the document changed from Community Strategic Plan (CSP) so that it resonated further with local residents.

Cr Weston also encouraged his fellow Councillors to consider nominating worthy people for the 2017 Leeton Shire Australia Day Awards as nominations are closing very soon.

He also indicated that he would like to see a designated budget for the Henry Lawson Cottage included in future budgets. The General Manager advised that this would be considered when the 2017/18 budget is considered.

Cr Nardi

Raised concerns surrounding burnout marks on the road in the Palm Avenue, Belah Street and in front of the MET school areas. Cr Nardi also had some concerned residents approach her in relation to speeding activities taking place along Karri Road.

Cr Nardi asked if any follow up had occurred as to what the owners of the Red Rooster building in the Leeton Market Plaza precinct were intending to do with the building now that it is vacated. The garden areas surrounding the shopfront may be a concern if not maintained.

Cr Nardi concluded her statements by commending Water and Wastewater staff member Mr Paul Goodrum for the very informative tour that he gave of the Leeton Water Filtration Plant. She also said that in future she would like to see some funding allocated to painting the outside of the Leeton Water Filtration Plant.

Cr Davidson

Commended the staff involved with facilitating the draft Leeton Community Strategic Plan Stakeholder meetings for the thorough planning that has taken place.

He also raised that cat heads and khaki weed are starting to feature prominently around the Shire. Acting Director of Environmental and Community Services Josh Clyne will further investigate.

Cr Ciccio

Acknowledged the staff at the Leeton Water Filtration and Leeton Sewer Treatment Plant for the excellent job that they did with hosting the site visits for Councillors.

Cr Morris

Congratulated the proactive volunteers and community members involved at the Leeton Golf Course for the great work they are doing to identify innovative ways to reduce the financial burden on Council in maintaining the course on an annual basis.

She concluded her statements by congratulating the Council staff involved for a big effort this past financial year to place Council in a strong financial position as we continue to look at more efficient ways to do business as a Council.

Cr Reneker

Informed his fellow Councillors that he enjoyed the “Hit the Ground Running” training for Councillors held in Griffith earlier this month. As a new Councillor three key messages that he learnt out of the training were that you can't please everybody, not to get caught up in the daily operations and to always read your business papers.

He also commended Cr Morris for the inspiring and informative presentation that she gave at the NSW Women's Police Conference held in late October. Cr Reneker said that Cr Morris represented the Leeton community with great professionalism and engaged her audience very well.

Cr Kidd

Indicated that he heard an interview on ABC radio in relation to Gunnedah Shire Council reportedly saving \$100,000 by completing their recent local government election in-house. He believes there was good merit to considering this option.

Cr Kidd also indicated that the number of polling booths could be streamlined to minimise resources required.

Director of Corporate Services Duncan McWhirter took this on notice and will further investigate.

Cr Smith

Expressed that the “Hit the Ground Running Training” for Councillors held in Griffith was extremely beneficial being a first term Councillor.

Cr Smith raised his concerns about the current state of Markey's Beach boat ramp located in the MIA State Forest 1 entrance. NSW National Parks now have control of this area which was originally funded by ratepayers.

The General Manager advised that she will further investigate and advocate on behalf of Leeton Shire residents to ensure the boat ramp is returned to an operational condition.

Mayor Maytom

Informed Council that he was re-elected Chair of the Murray Darling Association (MDA) Region 9 at the AGM held in Leeton on Wednesday 23 November 2016. Presentations from the new Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) Regional Engagement Officer Liz Stott and Karen Hutchinson from Murrumbidgee Irrigation were presented at the meeting which were beneficial to all those in attendance.

He also expressed his thanks to Mrs Debbie Evans and the General Manager for their efforts with improving the communication amongst MDA Region 9 members and playing a big part in revamping how the committee will operate.

He also raised his concern regarding green waste disposal issues in the Whitton community with a need to follow up on how we address this issue being a priority.

9. CLOSED COUNCIL – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Note: Pursuant to Section 10A(4), the public were invited to make representations to the Council meeting before any part of the meeting is closed, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

16/187

Resolved

- 1 That Council move into Closed Council to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting.
- 2 That in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting to enable Council to determine items listed in Confidential Matters for the reasons indicated.
- 3 That the report relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by Section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Weston)

Item 9.1 SALE OF SURPLUS LAND - 14 YANCO AVENUE, LEETON

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, as the report contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)c).

Item 9.2 LEASE OF PART OF OLD WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION BUILDING

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, as the report contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)c).

The Mayor asked the gallery if there were any objections to Council going into Closed Session to consider the matters listed.

No objections were received from the Gallery.

Council closed its meeting at 9.00pm and the public and press left the Chambers.

Item 9.1 SALE OF SURPLUS LAND - 14 YANCO AVENUE, LEETON

16/188

Resolved

THAT:

1. Council rescinds Minute Number 16/033 which provided approval to accept the offer in relation to 14 Yanco Avenue, Leeton (24 February 2016).
2. Council accepts the offer outlined in the report for the sale of 14 Yanco Avenue, Leeton, being Lot 15, Section 57, DP 758606.
3. Council authorises the Mayor and General Manager to sign and seal all documentation in relation to the sale.
4. All proceeds received from the sale of the property be set aside in Council's Internal Restriction for Buildings.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Ciccia)

Item 9.2 LEASE OF PART OF OLD WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION BUILDING

16/189

Resolved

THAT:

1. Council agrees "In Principle" to lease part of 27-33 Chelmsford Place Leeton for various purposes.
2. The Mayor and General Manager be authorised to negotiate relevant lease terms up to a maximum of \$15,000 per annum.
3. Council authorises the Mayor and General Manager to sign and seal all documents in relation to the lease.
4. For the 2016/17 Operational Plan, period any lease fee be funded via the Leeton Shire Council Buildings Restriction.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Weston)

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 9.05pm.

The Mayor advised that during the Closed Council two resolutions were passed. The General Manager read out the resolutions made in Closed Council for Items 9.1 and 9.2.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

..... signed by
the Chairman of the meeting held on
14/12/2016 at which meeting the
signature hereon was subscribed.