



**LEETON**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2019  
COMMENCING AT 7.07PM  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

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

**Staff:**

Chris Watson (Acting General Manager), Craig Bennett (Director Corporate and Community), Chris Lashbrook (Acting Director Environment and Engineering), Brent Lawrence (Manager Communications and Marketing), Jackie Hawkins (Manager Finance) and Alison Balind (Governance and Corporate Planning Coordinator)

**Press:** Tahlia Carn

**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**

T. (02) 6953 0911 F. (02) 6953 0977  
council@leeton.nsw.gov.au  
23-25 Chelmsford Place Leeton NSW 2705  
[www.leeton.nsw.gov.au](http://www.leeton.nsw.gov.au) 

1. **CIVIC PRAYER** Cr George Weston
2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** Cr Paul Maytom
3. **APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS**

**19/143**

**Resolved**

THAT Council receive the apology of Cr Tracey Morris and a leave of absence be granted.

**(Moved Cr Ciccia, seconded Cr Weston)**

4. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES AND ANY MATTERS ARISING**

**19/144**

**Resolved**

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22 May 2019, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

THAT the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12 June 2019, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

**(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Kidd)**

**ADDITIONAL/LATE ITEMS**

**19/145**

**Resolved**

THAT the following item, namely:

- 6.1. REVIEW OF CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

are accepted as late items onto this Agenda for discussion.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Reneker)**

5. **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

Nil

## **6. MAYORAL MINUTES**

### **Item 6.1 REVIEW OF CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

**19/146**

#### **Resolved**

THAT the:

1. Mayoral Minute be received and noted.
2. General Manager be requested to consider how a public forum can be included in the code of meeting practice so that residents and other interested parties can formally address the Council before decisions are made on matters listed in the business paper.
3. General Manager be requested to review the code of meeting practice so that the current process of Councillors reporting back to the Council on community activities they have been involved with can be continued.
4. Councillors at this meeting be invited to report to the meeting on community activities and information sharing on matters of relevance to the Councillors and staff.
5. Report by Councillors on activities they have been involved in be recorded as has been the past practice.

**(Moved Cr Maytom, seconder not required for Mayoral Minutes)**

## **7. REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS**

#### **Item 7.1 ROXY COMMUNITY THEATRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - TUESDAY 28 MAY 2019**

**19/147**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council notes the Roxy Theatre Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 28 May 2019.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Nardi)**

## **CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY MATTERS**

### **Item 7.2 ADOPTION OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN (INCLUDING BUDGET) AND THE REVENUE POLICY (INCLUDING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES) FOR THE 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**19/148**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council adopts:

1. The amended Operational Plan (including Budget) for the 2019/2020 Financial Year) and the Revenue Policy (including Schedule of Fees and Charges) for the 2019/2020 Financial Year), with the following changes:

Amend Operational Plan Action 4f.06 – Engage the community to determine support for a Smoke-Free Main Street including an educational program on current legislation and enforcement processes.

Amend the Schedule of Fees & Charges in relation to the \$67 fee for bricks and cement to remain at the 2018/2019 level, being \$65, until a further investigation can be undertaken with a report to come back to Council incorporating all aspects of cost recovery and sales.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Reneker)**

### **Item 7.3 THE MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**19/149**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council authorises the General Manager to prepare and serve the following 2019/2020 Rate Notices or in her absence they may be served by the Director Corporate and Community.

#### **1. Ordinary Rates**

##### a) Ordinary Rate - Residential

In accordance with section 494 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make the Base Amount \$464 for Ordinary Rates for the 2019/2020 financial year, which represents 48% of the total revenue for the Residential Rating category and make the Ad Valorem component of the rate at 0.839916 cents in the dollar on all land value of all rateable land within the Residential Rating category.

b) Ordinary Rate - Farmland

In accordance with section 494 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make the Base Amount \$729 for Ordinary Rates for the 2019/2020 financial year, which represents 20% of the total revenue for the Farmland Rating category and make the Ad Valorem component of the rate at 1.089428 cents in the dollar on all land value of all rateable land within the Farmland Rating category.

c) Ordinary Rate – Business

In accordance with section 494 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make the Base Amount \$311 for Ordinary Rates for the 2019/2020 financial year, which represents 25% of the total revenue for the Business Rating category and make the Ad Valorem component of the rate at 0.887423 cents in the dollar on all land value of all rateable land within the Business Rating category.

**2. Charges – Sewerage Local Fund**

a) Sewerage Annual Charge - Residential

That Council make the Sewerage Annual Charge – Residential for the 2019/2020 financial year \$600 for each parcel of land categorised as Residential land within the Leeton, Yanco and Whitton Sewerage Local Rate Areas in accordance with section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

b) Sewerage Annual Charge – Non-Residential

That Council make a usage charge of \$1.12 per kilolitre with a minimum charge equivalent to the Residential Sewerage Annual Charge of \$600 calculated in accordance with Guidelines for Best Practice Pricing as set down by the NSW Office of Water.

The charge is to apply to each water meter attached to the assessment categorised as Non-Residential land within the Leeton, Yanco and Whitton Sewerage Local Rate Areas in accordance with section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The Non-Residential Sewer Access charge be as follows:

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Access Charge \$</b>
20mm	128.04
25mm	200.06
32mm	327.78
40mm	512.16
50mm	800.25
80mm	2048.64
100mm	3201.00
150mm	7202.25
200mm	12804.00

**3. Interest Rate on Overdue Rates and Charges**

That the interest rate to be charged on all overdue Rates and Charges and arrears during the 2019/2020 financial year to be set at 7.5%.

**4. Domestic Waste Management Charge**

That Council make a Domestic Waste Management Charge under section 496 of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$270 on all rateable parcels of land for which there is a full service.

**5. Waste Management Charge**

That Council make a Waste Management Charge under section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$270 to the non-residential and non-rateable parcels of land in the Leeton Shire Council area being rendered a full service.

**6. Landfill Access Charge**

That Council make a Landfill Access Charge under section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$54.40 (GST Inclusive) to all parcels of land not having access to the Domestic Waste Collection Service under section 496 and Waste Collection Services under section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

That Council make a Landfill Access Charge under section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$54.40 (GST Inclusive) for each parcel of rateable land for which the service is available and is unoccupied.

**7. Recycling Service Charge**

That Council make a Recycling Service Charge under section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$135 on all parcels of land for which there is a full Domestic Waste Collection Service.

Recycling Services for non-residential and non-rateable properties will be optional and those properties wishing to use the service will be charged at the rate of \$135 per annum.

## **8. Water Charges**

That Council make the following water charges:

### **a) Access Charges**

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>\$</u>
20mm	275
25mm	275
32mm	705
40mm	1,101
50mm	1,720
65mm	2,908
80mm	4,405
100mm	6,780
150mm	11,560

### **b) Consumption Charges – Residential**

- for the first 300 kilolitres (kl) = \$1.10 per kl
- from 301 kilolitres to 600 kilolitres = \$1.60 per kl
- thereafter = \$2.79 per kl

Strata Properties with single meter \$1.74 per kl for all consumption.

### **c) Consumption Charges – Non Residential**

- for the first 300 kilolitres (kl) = \$1.10 per kl
- thereafter = \$1.60 per kl

## **9. Stormwater Management Charge**

That Council make a Stormwater Management Charge under section 496A of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$25 for developed residential properties, \$12.50 for each residential strata unit and \$25 for eligible properties within the Ordinary Business Rating category area and \$12.50 for each business strata title unit.

## **10. On-site Sewerage Management Service Fee**

That Council make an annual Administration Service Fee under Section 608 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$6 per annum for an approval to operate a system of sewerage management.

## **11. Fees and Charges**

That Council make the Fees and Charges for the 2019/2020 financial year as per the adopted 2019/2020 Operational Plan (which includes the Revenue Policy (Fees and Charges) for 2019/2020).

Further, that a report be prepared for Council on the historical tariff elements in relation to the impact on changes in residential water consumption charges.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Ciccia)**

### **Item 7.4 INVESTMENTS REPORT MAY 2019**

**19/150**

#### **Resolved**

THAT the information contained in the Investments Report for May 2019 be noted.

**(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Smith)**

### **Item 7.5 REQUESTS FOR SPONSORSHIP - LEETON SHOW SOCIETY**

**19/151**

#### **Resolved**

THAT:

1. Council agrees to financially support the Leeton Show Society as a platinum sponsor to the value of \$1,000.
2. The funding come from the 2018/2019 Budget.

**(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Kidd)**

### **Item 7.6 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION - VULA WATE**

**19/152**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council awards Vula Wate a \$250 Youth Development Grant to assist with the costs associated with representing Leeton and the Riverina at the 2019 NSW PSSA Boys 11 Year Rugby League State Championships, 2019 NSW PSSA Boys Open Rugby League State Championships and the 2019 NSW PSSA Rugby Union State Championships.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Nardi)**



**Item 7.7 MINUTES OF THE LEETON MEN'S SHED COMMITTEE (MAY 2019)**

**19/153**

**Resolved**

THAT Council receives and notes the information provided in the Minutes of the Leeton Men's Shed Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8 May 2019.

**(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Davidson)**

**ENVIRONMENT AND ENGINEERING MATTERS**

**Item 7.8 CLASSIFICATION OF COUNCIL LAND - 104 VANCE ROAD LEETON**

**19/154**

**Resolved**

THAT Council:

1. Classifies Lot 1 DP1151864 104 Vance Road Leeton as operational land.
2. Gives 28 days public notice of the classification under section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Smith)**

**Item 7.9 LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE ELECTRONIC MEETING  
28 MAY 2019**

**19/155**

**Resolved**

THAT Council resolves to note the minutes and endorse the following recommendations of the Local Area Traffic Committee meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

**(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Ciccia)**

**8. NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

In accordance with the Mayoral Minute (Resolution No 19/146) from this meeting, Councillor statements are recorded below.

## **STATEMENTS BY COUNCILLORS**

### **CR GEORGE WESTON**

**Overseas Observations:** I've been away in Iceland, Norway and Amsterdam and it was quite interesting what other governments do for their people. I was very taken in Amsterdam with the amount of people riding bikes. All those societies are looking at some sort of transport mechanisms.

### **CR SANDRA NARDI**

**Site Visit – Whitton Bowling Club:** As discussed in an email, Councillor Nardi had been to the club recently for a function and spoke with some of the board members. Cr Nardi asked if there was a possibility of a group visit to the Bowling Club to discuss ways Council could assist. The club is not in the best shape and there are some issues that need to be addressed.

### **CR TONY RENEKER**

**National General Assembly:** Last week we attended the National General Assembly in Canberra and anyone who can get an opportunity to attend should. It opened up my eyes to Local Government and how the Federal Government views Councils.

### **CR PAUL SMITH**

**Hospital Update:** Councillor Smith asked whether there was information available and if there had been some sort outbreak this week as there had been a lot of ambulances attending other hospitals. The Mayor advised that there was discussion at an Assumption Villa meeting he had attended and that there had been a gastro outbreak. Cr Kidd advised that processes at the hospital when there was this type of occurrence required some patients to be transported elsewhere.

### **CR PAUL MAYTOM**

**Template For Report:** The Mayor advised that he intended to bring information to Councillors in a more timely manner via a report that will include details of meetings attended, interviews undertaken, conferences and congresses and events.

**Drought outlook and water availability meeting in Griffith:** This meeting was attended by about 75 people. Water NSW was present and spoke about critical water needs. The Mayor advised that while there was a plan for how towns will be supplied with water, the outlook is grim. The water flows into dams are amongst the lowest on record and essentially we have some issues in front of us.

**Mens Shed Health Forum:** This forum was held at Yanco and attended by about 100 people. The effort that was put together to encourage older men within the shire to understand their health and have health checks. The Mayor said the event clearly identified the need for people as they get older to undertake health checks. The Mayor congratulated the Men's Shed for organising the event.

**Fivebough Tuckerbill Wetlands Advisory Committee Meeting:** The Mayor spoke about the toilets being installed at the wetlands. The Acting Director Environment and Engineering informed the Council that the septic system had been installed and the toilets were currently awaiting installation.

**U3A Group:** The Mayor attend a recent U3A meeting and there was a presentation from Foodbank's Lou Revelant who provided statistics in relation to lower socioeconomic demographics within the community. He spoke about people who were on Newstart payments who had not received an increase in their payments for about 10 years. We need to acknowledge we have a lot of people who live in a situation that is different to the way we live our lives through no fault of their own. He also provided details on the companies and organisations that provide support for Foodbank which then helps these people survive.

**Member For Murray:** The General Manager and Mayor met with the new Member to outline the number of projects as well as grant funding opportunities that council wishes to pursue.

**Leeton Aboriginal Interagency:** The Mayor said it was a sensational meeting with agencies there representing a number of disadvantaged members of our society. The good thing about this is that it demonstrates there are a lot of agencies there to help situations in our community.

**Riverina Murray Regional Alliance:** The Mayor was requested to speak on Council's position on linking with the Aboriginal community and how we can work to achieve good outcomes.

**CEO Royal Freemasons:** The Mayor met with the Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Freemasons and others in relation to aged care issues. The CEO spoke about the Four Corners story into Aged Care providers and the upcoming audit on their facilities to ensure compliance.

**Murrumbidgee EWAG Meeting:** The minutes from this meeting will be sent out to Councillors. Environmental water was discussed and the Mayor sought clarification on what distinguishes a critical wetlands, extreme high priority, high priority and lower priority and this information will be distributed to all members so we can see those particular wetlands. Essentially from that we will get an understanding of the watering and the need for watering.

**Radio Interviews on Solar Farm:** The Mayor was interviewed and passed on the information as per the council resolution. The Mayor stated the Council needed an update on this issue as he understood that the developers attended council for a meeting but Councillors were yet to receive a report on this.

**Murray Darling Basin Plan:** Four Corners have been in town and undertaking interviews in relation to water issues and the transparency in relation to the spending of government money going out on projects. At this stage, of the \$9 billion on efficiency projects which was to be spent there is still \$4.5 billion to be spent. The report talks about trying to identify where they spend the money is going to get the best outcomes for communities.

**National General Assembly:** The three motions presented by council – on racial discrimination, mental health access in regional areas and rural doctors' shortage - were supported. The Mayor said he did not have the opportunity to talk to the motions. There were a lot of similar motions and many were combined but there was no debate. There were also forums attended with Cr Reneker attended the one on crime and the Mayor went to a session on affordable housing

**Local Roads Congress:** There was a report about Road Safety. The meeting participants spoke about people not getting the message about exceeding the speed limit. The Mayor advised that the 50 kilometres speed limit was supposed to be applied to urban areas only.

**Mayor's Conference:** The Mayor attended the Conference and spoke on the issue brought up by Cr Reneker in relation to the autopsies and the Minister for Health, Brad Hazzard was present. They are making inroads into the issue of families having to wait up to six weeks and information will be forthcoming in the minutes of the conference.

**Central West Lifestyle Magazine:** The Mayor attended the launch of the magazine which was held in Narrandera recently.

**Reconciliation Week:** The Mayor represented Council at the march from the Post Office to Parkview School. There were more than 200 students at the march which was followed by a barbecue breakfast. The Mayor said it was a great event and truly recognised what we should be recognising. At the same event a Citizenship Ceremony was held, which was the first time one was held outside of Council Chambers. There were 11 people who became Australian Citizens and the Mayor said it was one of the best ceremonies he had ever attended. The Mayor encouraged Councillors to attend future ceremonies.

**Citizenship Issues:** The Mayor said that the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Local Government at the National General Assembly stated Local Government was the voice of the people. The Mayor informed the Minister and the Deputy PM of the motion that was brought forward and passed at the last meeting regarding the length of time taken for Citizenship Applications to be processed, to which there was no response from the Minister for Home Affairs, Peter Dutton.

**Abbey Clarke Funeral:** The Mayor attended the recent funeral of Mr Clarke, whose wife Jenny Clarke was the former Mayor of Narrandera Shire Council. He also sent a card on behalf of Councillors and staff from Leeton Shire Council to express sympathies at Mr Clarke's death.

**Murray Darling Basin Authority:** The Mayor attended along with Cr Reneker who was present as an observer. The Acting Chief Executive presented to the meeting and the Mayor asked a question in relation to MDBA staff being sent out to this area and what the time frame was. He was advised that there would be 30 staff relocated but that at this stage there was only one staff member expected to be relocated by the end of this year.

## **9. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

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.

**19/156**

### **Resolved**

1. That Council moves 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 Weston, seconded Cr Ciccia)**

**Item 9.1 COUNCIL OWNED LAND BROBENAH ROAD**

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 if there were any objections to Council going into Closed Session to consider the matters listed. There were no persons seated in the gallery.

Council closed its meeting at 9.07pm and the press left the Chambers.

**CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

**Item 9.1 COUNCIL OWNED LAND BROBENAH ROAD**

**19/157**

**Resolved**

THAT Council authorises the General Manager to prepare and release an invitation for proposals to develop either rental housing or a retirement lifestyle village on part of Lot 330 (i.e. excluding the Men's Shed) and Lot 3 Brobenah Road.

**(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Reneker)**

Cr Weston requested that his vote against the motion be recorded.

**REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL**

**19/158**

**Resolved**

THAT this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 9.23pm.

**(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Weston)**

The Mayor advised that during the Closed Council one (1) resolution was passed. The Acting General Manager read out the resolutions made in Closed Council for Item 9.1 Council Own Land Brobenah Road.

**10. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.24pm.

..... signed by  
the Chairman of the meeting held on  
24 Jul 2019 at which meeting the  
signature hereon was subscribed.