



# LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

### LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2017

COMMENCING AT 7.05PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

---

**Present:**

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

**Staff:** Jackie Kruger (General Manager), Craig Bennett (Director Corporate and Community), Barry Heins (Director Engineering and Technical Services), Garry Stoll (Director Environmental and Community Services), Brent Lawrence (Corporate Communications Coordinator), Peter McFarlane (Financial Services Manager), Alison Egan, (Events and Performing Arts Coordinator) and Mel Irvin (Rates Officer)

**Press:** Talia Carn (The Irrigator)

1. **CIVIC PRAYER** Cr Sandra Nardi
2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** Cr Paul Maytom
3. **APOLOGIES Nil**
4. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

**17/024**

**Resolved**

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24 May 2017, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

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

**5. MAYORAL MINUTES**

Mayor Cr Paul Maytom extended a warm welcome to the new Director Corporate and Community, Craig Bennett and acknowledged outgoing Directors Garry Stoll (Director Environmental and Community Services) and Barry Heins (Director Engineering and Technical Services) for their efforts over many years. He wished them all the very best in their new Manager roles within the revised organisational structure.

**6. NOTICES OF MOTION - Nil**

**7. OFFICER'S REPORT**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS**

**Item 7.1 NAPIER ART DECO FESTIVAL RESEARCH TRIP**

**Note:** Council's Events and Performing Arts Coordinator made a presentation to Council on her trip to Napier for the Art Deco Festival, which was held in February 2017.

**17/025**

**Resolved**

THAT:

1. The information contained in the report on the Napier Art Deco Festival be noted by Council.
2. Council endorses the reestablishment of a S355 Leeton Art Deco Festival Committee for the purposes of planning and coordinating an Art Deco Event for 2019 and authorises the calling of expressions of interest from the community to join the committee.
3. Council invites all Councillor/s to join the newly established Leeton Art Deco Festival organising committee.

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

## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cr Peter Davidson declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest Declaration for this Item as he was signatory on the petition that was submitted to Council. Councillor Davidson does not believe that the interest will affect his deliberations on the matter or his vote. He remained in the meeting, participated in the debate and voted on the matter.

### **Item 7.2 MCCAUGHEY PARK YANCO - WATER FEATURE**

**17/026**

#### **Resolved**

THAT the Manager Parks & Recreation Services further investigates the options available and costs for the provision of a splash pad at McCaughey Park and that a further report be presented to Council at the October 2017 meeting.

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

**NOTE: Cr Weston asked that his no vote be recorded.**

### **Item 7.3 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING - DELIVERY PROGRAM 2017-2021, ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN 2017/18 AND RESOURCING STRATEGY**

**17/027**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council receive the report.

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

**17/028**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council:

1. Adopts the Operating Plan for 2017/18 (including Fees and Charges), Delivery Program 2017-2021 and the Resourcing Strategy (including the Long Term Financial Plan 2017-2027, Asset Management Plan 2017-2027 and the Workforce Management Plan 2017-2027) with the following alterations:
  - 1.1 Add a new Operational Plan 2017/18 Performance Measure action under 12a that says "Report on development of filming policy and related promotional activity". This addition impacts staff resourcing only, no direct financial implications.

- 1.2 Add a new Operational Plan 2017/18 Performance Measure action under 6a that says “Report on staff support and lobbying for fundraising efforts to achieve facility improvement at the Leeton Showground”. This addition impacts staff resourcing only, no direct financial implications.
  - 1.3 Add a new Operational Plan 2017/18 Performance Measure action under 17a that says “Report on options, costs and feasibility of a water feature at McCaughey Park and associated grant funding activity.” This addition impacts staff resourcing only, no direct financial implications at this stage.
  - 1.4 Remove detail under Operational Plan 2017/18 Performance measure action under 17a that references fencing of the playground at Graham Park and replace with “(including developing car parking at Graham Park - subject to funding)”. It should be noted that these works can only be accommodated if there are surpluses in working capital in the roads budget as there is no specific provision in the adopted budget. If and when funds are identified they will be reported to Council in a quarterly budget review.
  - 1.5 Replace page 10 of the Workforce Plan as tabled, recognising that the intent of the revised wording is simply to recognise that the availability of full time staff resourcing can be limited at times which can impact on productivity. Available staff resourcing needs to be considered and accommodated when planning the delivery of Council projects and programs, not just the numbers of Full Time Equivalent staff.
2. Presents for public consultation for a period of 28 days the proposed amendments to the cemetery fees for Leeton and Whitton for 2017/18 and reports any submissions back to Council prior to the adoption of the revised cemetery fees:

<b>Leeton Lawn</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Single depth	\$3,550.00
Double depth	\$3,830.00
Reopening (detachable plate)	\$1,255.00
Reopening (book style)	\$1,605.00
Stillborn	\$2,225.00
<b>Leeton Monumental</b>	
Single/double depth	\$3,020.00
Reopen including 1 <sup>st</sup> interment	\$1,050.00
Reopen (not including slab)	\$ 965.00
<b>Whitton Monumental</b>	
Single/double depth	\$3,330.00
Reopen including 1 <sup>st</sup> interment	\$1,270.00
Reopen (not including slab)	\$1,180.00

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

**Item 7.4 2017/18 OPERATIONAL PLAN - MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES**

**17/029**

**Resolved**

THAT Council authorises the General Manager to prepare and serve the 2017/18 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 of \$441.00 for ordinary rates for the year 2017/18 which represents 48% of the total revenue for the Residential Rating Category, and make the Ad Valorem component of the rate at 0.799433 cents in the dollar on all the 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 \$691.00 for ordinary rates for the year 2017/18 which represents 20% of the total revenue for the Farmland Rating Category, and make the Ad Valorem component of the rate at 1.021630 cents in the dollar on all the land value of all the 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 \$291.00 for ordinary rates for the year 2017/18 which represents 25% of the total revenue for the Business Rating Category, and make the Ad Valorem component of the rate at 0.840365 cents in the dollar on all the land value of all the 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 2017/18 at \$570.00 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 \$1.05 per kilolitre with a minimum charge equivalent to the Residential Sewerage Annual Charge of \$570.00 calculated in accordance with the Guidelines for Best Practice Pricing as set down by the NSW Office of Water.

This 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	121.60
25mm	190.00
32mm	311.30
40mm	486.40
50mm	760.00
80mm	1,945.60
100mm	3,040.00
150mm	6,840.00
200mm	12,160.00

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

That the interest rate to be charged on all overdue rates and charges and arrears during 2017/18 will be 7.5%.

**4. Domestic Waste Management Charge**

That Council make the following Domestic Waste Management Charge:

That the Domestic Waste Management Charge, on all rateable parcels of land for which there is a full service, be \$257.00 under Section 496 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

**5. Waste Management Charge**

That Council make a Waste Management Charge under Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$257.00 to the non-residential and non-rateable parcels of land in 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 \$51.70 (GST Inclusive) to all parcels of land not having access to the Domestic Waste Collection Service under Section 496, and Waste Collection Service under Section 501 of the Local Government Act.

That Council make a Landfill Access Charge under Section 501 of \$51.70 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 \$128.00 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 \$128.00 per annum.

**8. Water Charges**

That Council make the following water charges:

**a) Access Charges**

<u>Meter Size</u>	\$
20mm	268.00
25mm	268.00
32mm	686.00
40mm	1,072.00
50mm	1,675.00
65mm	2,831.00
80mm	4,288.00
100mm	6,450.00
150mm	11,000.00

**b) Consumption Charges – Residential**

- for the first 300 kilolitres	= \$1.02 per kl
- from 301 kilolitres to 600 kilolitres	= \$1.49 per kl
- thereafter	= \$2.60 per kl

Strata Properties with single meter \$1.62 per kl for all consumption

**c) Consumption Charges – Non Residential**

- for the first 300 kilolitres	= \$1.02 per kl
- thereafter	= \$1.49 per kl

**9. Stormwater Management Charge**

That Council make a Stormwater Management Charge under Section 496A of the Local Government Act 1993 of \$25.00 for developed residential properties, \$12.50 for each residential strata title unit, and \$25.00 for eligible properties within the Ordinary Business Rating Category area and \$12.50 for each business strata title unit.

**10. Fees and Charges**

That Council make the fees and charges for 2017/18 as per the adopted 2017/18 Operational Plan.

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

**ECONOMIC, TOURISM & EVENTS MATTERS**

**Item 7.5 BIDGEE CLASSIC AGM MINUTES & BALANCE SHEET**

**17/030**

**Resolved**

THAT the report be received and noted.

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

**CORPORATE SERVICES MATTERS**

**Item 7.6 INVESTMENTS AND DIVIDENDS MAY 2017**

**17/031**

**Resolved**

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

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

**Item 7.7 RAMROC - INNOVATION FUND APPLICATION ROUND 2**

**17/032**

**Resolved**

THAT Council:

1. Resolves to participate in and support the Western Riverina Regional IT Strategy Innovation Fund Application with the intent of developing a collaborative IT Strategy and improvement opportunities, noting that Carrathool Shire Council will act as the Lead Council in undertaking the administration and financial management of the project.



2. Agrees to enter into a partnership agreement with the participating Councils with the purpose of exploring IT Strategy, improvement and synergy opportunities if the funding application is successful.
3. Notes that in participating, in-kind staff time is being committed to the extent outlined in the funding application.

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

## **ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES MATTERS**

### **Item 7.8 APPLICATION TO CLOSE AN UNNAMED ROAD RESERVE LOCATED BETWEEN LOT 1, DP 1190127 AND LOTS 710, 714, 715, 716, DP 751745**

**17/033**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council continues with its resolution of the February 2017 Meeting for the lease and closure of the unnamed road reserve, located between Lot 1 DP 1190127, Lots 710, 714, 715 & 716, DP 751745.

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

### **Item 7.9 CLOSURE OF A SECTION OF BLIGHT ROAD (BETWEEN MURRAMI ROAD SOUTH AND HINTON ROAD)**

**17/034**

#### **Resolved**

THAT Council:

1. Endorses the application of P & D Stott for road closure application to Crown Lands for a section of Blight Road (between Murrami Road South and Hinton Road).
2. Writes a letter of consent signed by the General Manager for the closure of a section of Blight Road (between Murrami Road South and Hinton Road) to be included with the application to the Crown Lands.

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MATTERS**

**Item 7.10 ALCOHOL FREE ZONES**

**17/035**

**Resolved**

THAT Council resolves to:

1. Re-establish Alcohol Free Zones in the Leeton and Yanco business areas.
2. Establish a Alcohol Prohibition Area in Rotary Park, including the lawn area and the skate bowl.
3. Notify the public of the adoption of the Alcohol Free Zones and the Alcohol Prohibition Area
4. Install appropriate signage for the Alcohol Free Zone and Alcohol Prohibition Area.

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

**Item 7.11 LEETON TREE MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING**

**17/036**

**Resolved**

THAT the report be noted.

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

**Item 7.12 FLOOD PLANNING LEVELS – LEETON LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN**

**17/037**

**Resolved**

THAT Council resolves to prepare a Development Control Plan that creates an assessment protocol on determining the appropriate flood planning levels in Leeton Shire based on a merits assessment approach using the available flood planning data relating to Leeton Shire.

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

**Item 7.13 COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 2 – 2016/2017**

**17/038**

**Resolved**

THAT Council approves the following applications for assistance from the Round 2 2016-17 Community Strengthening Grants Scheme:

Yanco Wamoon Football Club	\$2,000
Brilliant and Resilient	400
Leeton Eisteddfod Society Inc	1,500
Leeton U3A	1,500
Salvation Army	250
Sporting Shooters Association Leeton/Narrandera	<u>1,860</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,510</b>

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

**8. STATEMENTS BY COUNCILLORS**

Deputy Mayor Cr George Weston

Informed his fellow Councillors that the latest statistics from the 2016 Census were now available online and showed some interesting trends for Leeton Shire.

He also asked for an update on when the Leeton Community Wi-Fi project would be completed. The Director Corporate and Community advised Council that the project will be completed by mid-July and that he will keep in regular contact with Council's IT Manager to ensure it is delivered within this timeframe.

Cr Weston thanked Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their service as Directors of Leeton Shire Council and wished them all the best in their new roles.

He concluded by extending a warm welcome to the new Director Corporate and Community Craig Bennett.

Cr Sandra Nardi

Asked for her sincere thanks to be passed onto Justin Davidson and Josh Clyne for their quick response to ensuring the Leeton Town Ovals were mowed for the Leeton United Football Club.

She also congratulated Council's Engineering Team for the excellent work that they have done with the Muntenpen Street intersection.

Thanked Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their service as Directors of Leeton Shire Council and wished them all the best in their new roles.

Cr Peter Davidson

Expressed his sincere thanks to Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their service as Directors of Leeton Shire Council and wished them all the best in their new roles.

He congratulated Cr Weston on becoming Rotary District Governor.

Cr Davidson also requested an update on where the Lyrics, Landscapes and Lintels project was currently situated. The Director of Environmental and Community Services took this question on notice and will report directly back to the Councillors once he has the required information.

He also advised that he had heard rumours that JBS Swift was running out of water supply. He asked if a relevant Council staff member could follow up and report back with what is an important business for our Shire.

Cr Davidson concluded by asking whether Council had a position on changing the date of Australia day given the recent resolution to investigate options that was passed at the Australian Local Government Assembly held in Canberra.

Cr Tony Ciccio

Thanked Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their support and assistance since commencing as a first term Councillor and welcomed the new Director Corporate and Community.

Cr Ciccio expressed his concerns about the empty shops in Pine Avenue and the poor impression that it gives to visitors.

The General Manager advised that the new Director Corporate and Community will have an active focus on economic development matters and opportunities for Leeton Shire given his previous experience in other Councils. He will be supported by an Economic Development Coordinator which is to be advertised shortly.

Cr Tracey Morris

Congratulated Events and Performing Arts Coordinator Alison Egan on the detailed report that was presented to Council from her recent study tour trip to the Art Deco Festival held in Napier, New Zealand.

Extended a warm welcome to the new Director Corporate and Community and thanked the outgoing Directors for their hard work and assistance over a long period.

She also congratulated fellow councillors Tony Reneker and George Weston on their recent achievements which received much deserved coverage in The Irrigator.

Cr Morris concluded by asking the General Manager for an update from her recent attendance at the Freight Strategy Workshop which was held in Narrandera. The General Manager advised that several companies that handle freight were in attendance, including Victorian based operators. The meeting was formally facilitated and there was a clear indication from those in attendance that there is a strong interest in rail for increased productivity and safety.

Cr Tony Reneker

Congratulated the Manager Library, Culture and Community for the initiative that she has taken with facilitating the "Sunday Soiree" events. He has been to a couple of these events already and really enjoyed them.

He concluded by thanking Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their efforts and assistance that they have provided him since becoming a Councillor last year.

Cr Michael Kidd

Thanked Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their outstanding service and wished them all the best in their new Manager roles.

He also made comment on Cr Ciccia's statement about the empty shops in Pine Avenue stating that we need to focus on the positives of our significant growth in agri-business and commercial development and the increased number of businesses operating in the Kurrajong Avenue precinct which was also very encouraging.

Cr Paul Smith

Congratulated fellow councillors Tony Reneker and George Weston on their recent achievements and accolades.

Informed Council that a local group had been in contact with him regarding the idea of a drag strip being installed in the Brobenah Aerodrome precinct and that Council should expect to receive some formal correspondence over the coming months.

He concluded by thanking Barry Heins and Garry Stoll for their service as Directors of Leeton Shire Council and wished them all the best in their new roles with Council.

Mayor Cr Paul Maytom

Informed his fellow Councillors that minutes from the Country Mayors Conference and Australian Local Government Assembly would be forwarded to them once they become available.

Congratulated Cr Reneker and Cr Weston on their recent achievements and asked that Cr Weston pass on the Mayor's congratulations to the Deputy Mayor's wife Carol who received a Paul Harris Fellowship Award at the recent Rotary Club of Leeton changeover dinner.

The Mayor concluded by advising Council that he along with the General Manager had met with Phil Townsend from the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) to discuss socio-economic impacts of the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

**9. CLOSED COUNCIL – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) 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) of the Act, 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.

**17/039**

**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 Weston, seconded Cr Davidson)**

**Item 9.1 PURCHASE OF LAND**

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, as the report contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; or (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council; or (iii) reveal a trade secret (Section 10A(2)d).

**Item 9.2 TENDER FOR NOXIOUS WEEDS SERVICES FOR LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, as the report contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; or (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council; or (iii) reveal a trade secret (Section 10A(2)d).

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 9.12pm and the public and press left the Chambers.

**Item 9.1 PURCHASE OF LAND**

**17/040**

**Resolved**

THAT Council maintain a watching brief on the property and continue to note it as a strategic site.

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

**Item 9.2 TENDER FOR NOXIOUS WEEDS SERVICES FOR LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**

**17/041**

**Resolved**

THAT Council:

1. Accept the tender submitted by Ferguson Management and enter into a three year Contract for the provision of Noxious Weeds services that meet the obligations of the Leeton Shire Council Weed Action Plan for the period of 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2020.
2. Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign all relevant documentation associated with this contract.

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

**REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL**

**17/042**

**Resolved**

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 9.16pm.

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

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 9.17pm.

..... signed by  
the Chairman of the meeting held on  
26/07/2017 at which meeting the  
signature hereon was subscribed.