



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY
COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2020
COMMENCING AT 7.00PM
AT 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,
Cr. Tracey Morris and Cr. Michael Kidd

Staff:

Jackie Kruger (General Manager), Brendan Leary (Director Business and
Investment), Peter Keane (Director Operations), Kerrie-Ann Hare (Manager IPR and
Governance) and Monica Armanini (Communications Coordinator)

Press: Talia Carn

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

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1. **CIVIC PRAYER** - Mayor Cr Paul Maytom
2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** - Mayor Cr Paul Maytom
3. **APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

THAT Council notes the apology from the Director Operations Peter Keane.
THAT Council notes Cr Nardi's apology for lateness.

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

20/192

Resolved

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25 November 2020, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr Ciccio, seconded Cr Morris)

5. **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

Nil

6. **PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS**

Nil

7. **MAYORAL MINUTES - CONFIDENTIAL SECTION – ITEM 11.2**

8. **REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS

Item 8.1 NAMING OF THE LEETON POOL

20/193

Resolved

THAT Council agrees to name the refurbished Leeton Pool the "Leeton Regional Swimming Pool".

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Reneker)

AMENDMENT

THAT Council agrees to name the refurbished Leeton Pool the "Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre".

(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Davidson)

The Amendment was put and carried. The Amendment then became the Motion.

20/194

Resolved

THAT Council agrees to name the refurbished Leeton Pool the "Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre".

(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Davidson)

Item 8.2 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION PROPOSED NAME CHANGE

20/195

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Supports the proposal to change the name of the Murray Darling Association to the Murray Darling Local Government Association for the purposes of consultation.
2. Proposes an alternative name to be the Murray Darling Basin Local Government Association.
3. In the event the matter progresses to an Extraordinary General Meeting of the MDA, delegates the rights to vote for or against the proposed name change as they deem best for Council and the MDA to the Mayor and second voting delegate (usually the Deputy Mayor or General Manager).

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Davidson)

**Item 8.3 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2020**

20/196

Resolved

THAT Council endorses the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 25 November 2020, and notes the information contained therein.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Ciccia)

Cr Nardi arrived at 7.10pm.

**Item 8.4 MINUTES OF THE YANCO HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING -
9 NOVEMBER 2020**

20/197

Resolved

THAT Council receives for information the Minutes of the Yanco Hall Management Committee meetings held on Monday 9 November 2020.

(Moved Cr Nardi, seconded Cr Kidd)

BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT MATTERS

Item 8.5 INVESTMENTS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2020

20/198

Resolved

THAT the information contained in the Investments Report for November 2020 be noted.

(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Kidd)

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Councillor Weston declared a Significant, Non-Pecuniary Interest for Item 8.6 – Roxy Theatre DA 118/2020.

The reason for the declaration is that Councillor Weston has a conflict of interest as he is on the Joint Regional Planning Panel.

Councillor Weston vacated the meeting at 7.17pm, did not participate in the debate and did not vote on this matter.

Item 8.6 ROXY THEATRE DA 118/2020

20/199

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Receives the report on the lodgement of the Roxy Theatre Development Application for information.
2. Endorses the Development Application for approval and requests the General Manager to prepare a submission in support to the Western Joint Regional Planning Panel.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Morris)

Councillor Weston returned to the Chamber at 7.23pm.

Item 8.7 ALCOHOL FREE ZONES

20/200

Resolved

THAT Council resolves to:

1. Undertake public notification for a minimum period of 30 days of Council's intention to re-establish existing Alcohol Free Zones in the Leeton and Yanco central business districts.
2. Notify the proposal to interested parties including:
 - liquor licensees and secretaries of registered clubs whose premises border, adjoin or are adjacent to the proposed zones
 - Leeton Multicultural Support Group
 - Leeton and District Local Aboriginal Land Council.
3. Seek NSW Police advice on:
 - the success of the previous Alcohol Free Zone in achieving a reduction in unacceptable street drinking
 - the value of re-establishing Alcohol Free Zones in Leeton and Yanco, as indicated by police statistics
 - the location and extent of the Alcohol Free Zones to be re-established and the location of signage for the zones
 - other measures that may need to be considered if unacceptable street drinking is still of concern in the central business districts of Leeton and Yanco.
4. Seek NSW Police advice and/or support for the re-establishment of the Alcohol Free Zones for another 4 year term.
5. Require a further report on the feedback received from the public, police and other interested parties be submitted to Council prior to the re-establishment of Alcohol Free Zones in Leeton and Yanco.

(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Kidd)

Item 8.8 STREETLIGHT BULK LAMP REPLACEMENT WITH LED UPGRADE

20/201

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Enters into an agreement with Essential Energy for eligible streetlights to be upgraded to Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) by Essential Energy including the replacement of decorative lights on a "like for like" basis.
2. Endorses upfront payment by Leeton Shire Council of \$510,916, with funding to be sourced from grant opportunities (if available) or, if not, from internal borrowing from the Infrastructure Reserve at a cost of capital of 2.5% over 10 years.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Nardi)

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

10. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Item 10.1 COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORT

20/202

Resolved

THAT Council notes the Councillor Activity Reports for 26 November 2020 to 16 December 2020.

(Moved Cr Ciccia, seconded Cr Weston)

11. 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.

Item 11.1 REVIEW OF ORGANISATION STRUCTURE AND SENIOR STAFF

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, as the report contains as the report contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (Section 10A(2)a).

Item 11.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - GENERAL MANAGER'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, as the report contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (Section 10A(2)a).

20/203

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 Ciccia, seconded Cr Kidd)

Council closed its meeting at 7.42pm and the public and press left the Chambers.

CLOSED COUNCIL - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Cr Kidd left the meeting at 8.05pm following a call out related to his employment.

Cr Kidd returned at 8.40pm.

Item 11.1 REVIEW OF ORGANISATION STRUCTURE AND SENIOR STAFF

20/204

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Adopts the proposed new senior management structure consisting of 3 Group Managers, 3 Managers and the General Manager, noting the change requires consultation with staff prior to implementation in accordance with the Local Government Award.
2. Agrees to the Director Operations continuing in a senior staff role as defined in the Local Government Act for the duration of his current contract to support the transition and to fulfill the function of Group Manager Operations, after which the role will be advertised as an Award based position.
3. Notes that the additional cost of the new structure against the current adopted wages and salaries budget is estimated at \$612,000 per annum relative to the current budget (impacting the General Fund by around half, being approximately \$300,000).

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Kidd)

Item 11.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - GENERAL MANAGER'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The General Manager remained in the Chamber for discussion of the forward priorities only and then vacated the Chamber at 9.35pm until called back at 9.54pm.

20/205

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Notes the General Manager's Performance Review meeting summary provided by the LGNSW independent facilitator and endorses that the General Manager's performance is 'more than satisfactory',
2. Approves that the General Manager's Salary Package is to match the median for General Managers of large rural councils for 2018/19 as supplied by LGNSW independent facilitator in his summary report, with effect from the pay period following the review date.
3. Confirms the General Manager's 15 priorities for the year ahead, being:
 - Review and implement by February 2021 a new staff structure – flatter structure recommended with improved performance and greater accountability for operations, customer service and project management
 - Formalise funding and governance strategies for WRConnect by June 2021
 - Achieve development approval for the Roxy Community Theatre and commence works by May 2021
 - Progress securing employment-creating business/es to set up in Vance Industrial Estate
 - Complete Stage 1 of the Chelmsford Place Promenade by June 2021 and progress funding applications for Stages 2 and 3
 - Commence Wamoon Sewerage Scheme and aim to complete by December 2021
 - Complete Gogeldrie Weir water treatment mini-plant by end January 2021
 - Complete Gogeldrie Weir Masterplan by May 2021
 - Complete Housing Strategy for Leeton Shire by February 2021
 - Complete LELC expansion plans, including funding strategy, by February 2021
 - Complete silo art projects in Whitton by June 2021 and Leeton by Easter 2022
 - Review Community Strategic Plan by August 2021
 - Prepare for a successful election that attracts quality candidates by September 2021
 - Pursue the development of a retirement village for Leeton, with a proposal presented to Council by December 2021
 - Develop and update a register of all road structures across canals,

channels and drains with a view to determining what Council claims to own and what Murrumbidgee Irrigation claims to own, and what infrastructure is in dispute by August 2021.

(Moved Cr Reneker, seconded Cr Kidd)

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

20/206

Resolved

THAT this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 9.55pm.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Nardi)

The Mayor advised that during the Closed Council two resolutions were passed. The General Manager read out the resolution for Item 11.1 and the Mayor read out the resolution for his Mayoral Minute.

12. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.01pm.

..... signed by
the Chairman of the meeting held on
24 Feb 2021 at which meeting the
signature hereon was subscribed.