



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2017

COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

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), Duncan McWhirter (Director Corporate Services), Barry Heins (Director Engineering and Technical Services), Garry Stoll (Director Environmental and Community Services), and Brent Lawrence (Corporate Communications Coordinator)

Press: Talia Pattison (The Irrigator)

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

17/012

Resolved

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday, January 18 2017, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr Ciccia, seconded Cr Reneker)

5. **MAYORAL MINUTES**
6. **NOTICES OF MOTION**
7. **OFFICER'S REPORT**
GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS

**Item 7.1 ORGANISATION CHANGE - TOWARDS OPTIMISING
OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE**

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Director of Corporate Services, Director of Engineering and Technical Services and Director of Environmental and Community Services all declared a pecuniary interest in this item due to it directly affecting them and left the Chambers at 7.08pm whilst discussion and voting took place and returned at 7.40pm.

17/013

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Resolves to adopt a two directorate staffing structure for Leeton Shire Council with a Director Corporate and Community and a Director Environment and Engineering reporting to the General Manager and both positions being performance based senior contracts as per the Local Government Act 1993, with a term of up to 5 years.
2. Authorises the General Manager to resource the organisational change up to \$320,000 from operational savings and the reallocation of corporate and governance costs.

3. Authorises the General Manager to access up to \$100,000 from the infrastructure restriction to source specialist IT advice and / or software solutions.
4. Authorises the General Manager to utilise the employee leave entitlements restriction to cover the full range of costs associated with staff impacted by organisational change up to a maximum of \$310,000 including, if required, the difference in cost of holding current salaries in place for any staff that transition into lower grades as mandated.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Morris)

An amendment was put forward by Cr Tony Ciccia to alter the term of the performance based senior contracts to 3 years with an option for a further two years. The amendment was lost 7-2.

**Item 7.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - LOCAL INDUSTRIES -
BUILDING BETTER REGIONS FUND**

17/014

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Make application in conjunction with Grain Link (NSW) Pty Ltd for funding under the Building Better Regions Fund for various infrastructure requirements at the Bulk Agricultural Industrial Park at Wumbulgal.
2. Enter into a fund agreement with Grain Link (NSW) Pty Ltd if the grant application is successful to provide appropriate financial and governance structures in relation to responsibilities under the grant guidelines.
3. Require in the agreement relevant financial security in the form of a bank guarantee to ensure Council's financial interests are protected.
4. Seeks advice from the Director General about whether or not this project is a Private Public Partnership and if so follow the requirements of the *"Guidelines on the Procedures and Processes to be followed by Local Government in Public-Private Partnerships 1 September 2005"*.
5. Delegate to the Mayor and General Manager the authorisation to sign on behalf of Council all required documentation subject to appropriate due diligence being undertaken in relation to the application.
6. Seek a letter of support from Griffith City Council as part of the submission for the funding application with Grain Link (NSW) Pty Ltd.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Morris)

CORPORATE SERVICES MATTERS

**Item 7.3 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - DECEMBER
QUARTER 2016**

17/015

Resolved

THAT:

1. The review of Council's Operational Budget as at 31 December 2016 be noted and variations contained in the Quarterly Budget Review statement be voted.
2. The transfer of \$135,000 from the Infrastructure Restriction for the purchase of an Asset Management System be voted.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Davidson)

**Item 7.4 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING - QUARTERLY
REVIEW AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016**

17/016

Resolved

THAT Council note the progress in relation to the Council Delivery Program and Operating Plan for the quarter ended 31 December 2016.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Reneker)

**Item 7.5 INVESTMENTS - DIVIDENDS - INVESTMENTS JANUARY
2017**

17/017

Resolved

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

(Moved Cr Nardi, seconded Cr Morris)

Item 7.6 COUNCIL POLICIES FINAL ADOPTION – FEBRUARY 2017

17/018

Resolved

THAT Council

- a) Formally adopts the following policies:

Aboriginal Recognition and Protocol Policy
Asbestos Policy
Borrowing & Use of Loan Funds Policy
Buildings & Structures Maintenance Management Policy
Busking Policy
Cemetery Policy
Code of Meeting Practice
Community Engagement Strategy
Companion Animals Management Plan
Complaints Handling Policy
Council Footpaths - Use of Footpath Policy and Application
Council Workshop Policy
Debt Management Rates - Sundry Debtors Policy
Debt Recovery Water Policy
Development Application Objections Policy
Development Applications - Applications for the Waivering of Building and Development Application Fees
Donations - Assistance and Sponsorship Policy
Finance - Private Works Policy
Finance - Investment Policy
Finance - Revotes Policy
Finance - Supplementary Budget Allocations Policy
Financial - Hardship Policy
Frost Control Fans Policy
Gifts and Benefits Policy
Internal Reporting Policy
Liquid Trade Waste Policy
Local Preference Policy
Managing Encroachments on Council Road Reserves Policy
Media Policy
Model Code of Conduct Policy
Movable Dwellings - Caravans and the Like - Code of Standards Policy
Multiculturalism Policy
National Competition Policy
Naturalisation Ceremonies Policy
Overdraft Facilities Policy
Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayor and Councillors Policy
Pensioner Concessions
Plant - Disposal of Surplus Plant, Equipment or Materials to Charity Groups Policy
Policies - Adoption Of Policy
Privacy Management Plan
Procurement Manual Policy
Regulatory Activities - Enforcement and Prosecution Policy
Replacement of Water Meters Policy
Risk Management Policy

Sewerage Connections - Time Payment Arrangements Policy
Smoke Free Outdoor Areas Policy
Street Stall and Jarrah Mall Policy
Tree Management Policy
Trees - Issues of Vouchers Policy
Vandalism Policy
Volunteer Management Policy (New Policy that supersedes old policy in line with Council's Volunteer Strategy Project)
Water Allocation Access Policy
Water Connections - Time Payment Arrangements Policy
Water Main Extension Request and Connection
Noxious Weeds Policy (to be reviewed within the next 3 months)

b) Notes the following policies have now been removed from Council's Policy Register:

- Corporate Credit Cards Policy
- Injured Stray Animals Policy
- Parks, Horticulture and Reserves Division Policy
- Road Maintenance Management Policy
- Sportsground Safety - Crowd Control Fences Policy
- Water Access Charge - For Former Non -Rateable Properties Policy
- Water Consumption Accounts Policy

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Nardi)

Item 7.7 LEETON GOLF COURSE DECEMBER 2016 UPDATE

17/019

Resolved

THAT Council notes the 1 July 2016 – 31 December 2016 report on the activities of Leeton Golf Course

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Ciccio)

Item 7.8 LEETON GOLF COURSE - ADOPTION OF NEW FEES

17/020

Resolved

THAT Council formally implements the following new fees effective immediately for Leeton Golf Course:

- 15 months membership for the price of 12 - Any new member joining after 1 April will be allowed to pay yearly membership which gives them membership for April, May, and June of that year and the next full financial year.

- Membership fee for past members re-joining the course
 - One year lapse – 25% discount on cost of fees
 - Two year lapse – 50% discount on cost of fees(Note: Past Pensioner Members eligible however past full members who are now sports members not eligible)
- Fee for any full member playing in age bracket 18-29 – ½ cost = \$227.50.
- Upgrading from a sports member to a full member in the last three months of the financial year for \$20.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Reneker)

Item 7.9 ROAD CLOSURE REQUEST - UNNAMED ROAD ADJACENT TO SUNRICE PROPERTY (COPRICE)

17/021

Resolved

THAT Council resolves to:

1. Delegate to the Mayor and General Manager the authority to sign and seal all documents in relation to the closure and subsequent sale.
2. Submit an application to NSW Crown Lands to close the section of unnamed road reserve be approved.
3. Lease the unnamed road reserve for one year, commencing upon Council authorisation, for the price of \$4,533.66 plus GST per annum.
4. Extend the lease for a period of five years in the event that NSW Crown Lands does not approve the closure of the road reserve for the purpose of sale to Ricegrowers Ltd for the price recommended in point two, adjusted for CPI increases.

(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Kidd)

Item 7.10 STREET LIGHT BULK LAMP REPLACEMENT WITH LED UPGRADE

17/022

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Approves the upgrade of street lighting to LED luminaires for available installations.
2. Approves Option 1 as the preferred option for the LED street lighting upgrade.
3. Council funds the required \$275,338.47 from the Infrastructure Restriction in 2016/17.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Nardi)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MATTERS

Item 7.11 CBD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

17/023

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Resolves to endorse the Leeton Central Business District Enhancement Project Report No. 3 dated 12 January 2017.
2. Continues to lobby NSW Roads and Maritime Service to remove Pine and Kurrajong Avenues from being State controlled roads.
3. Continues to seek information on further grant funding opportunities to pursue detailed design and delivery of the Enhancement Plan.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Davidson)

Item 7.12 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING BETTER REGIONS FUND - INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS STREAM

17/024

Resolved

THAT Council resolves to;

1. Submit an application under the Federal Government Building Better Regions Fund – Infrastructure Projects Stream for the Leeton Swimming Pool Upgrade Project.

2. Utilise the Leeton Pool Reserve, Infrastructure Reserve and loan funding to fund the application.
3. Authorise the Mayor and the General Manager to sign and seal all documents in relation to the grant funding application and any associated loan documents.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Kidd)

8. STATEMENTS BY COUNCILLORS

Deputy Mayor Cr George Weston

Thanked Alison Egan, Hannah Fitzsimon and Cr Tony Reneker for all of their support with facilitating another great Leeton Shire Australia Day Awards Ceremony.

Cr Weston informed Council of his visit to Napier in New Zealand (he paid for his own trip) for their Art Deco Festival which he attended with Council's Events Coordinator. He said that great relationships and ideas were obtained which would greatly assist with the redevelopment of our 2019 event.

Council's Events and Performing Arts Coordinator will provide a detailed report at an upcoming Ordinary Council meeting regarding key outcomes from the study tour.

Cr Weston also raised a question regarding the maintenance budget allocation for Henry Lawson Cottage. Council's Parks and Gardens team will investigate his concerns at the site.

Cr Tony Ciccio

Congratulated the Whitton Museum Committee who are doing a great job at the Museum with limited resources.

Cr Morris

Reflected on her attendance at the Murrumbidgee Australia Day celebrations. Cr Morris explained that this great little village put on a fantastic event for the people of their village and extended her congratulations.

Cr Tony Reneker

Raised the question of whether recent changes in State Government that have removed the pressure for amalgamations also removed the pressure on Fit For the Future \$1.3M operational savings.

The General Manager explained that whilst the pressure may be off in terms of “amalgamations”, achieving our Fit For the Future performance benchmarks remain a priority focus, have to be formally reported and will be monitored by the Office of Local Government.

Mayor Cr Paul Maytom

Mayor Maytom informed Council that he met with senior representatives from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) for an update regarding current research projects and Tocal College Activity.

He was pleased to report that the update provided was extremely positive and that the Yanco Agricultural Institute site now employs well over 100.

Senior staff from DPI also agreed to come and present to Council an overview of how Tocal College is progressing at an upcoming Councillor Briefing Session.

The Mayor also reflected on his site visit to Freedom Foods at Murrambi with the General Manager and Director of Corporate Services. Senior management at Freedom Foods outlined changes that have been made to improve the way they do business. Council is now assisting with providing additional information to assist with potential opportunities at the Murrambi facility in the future.

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.

17/025

Resolved

THAT:

- 1 Council move into Closed Council to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting.
- 2 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 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 Ciccia)

Item 9.1 INSURANCE SERVICES ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER

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 8.48pm and the public and press left the Chambers.

Item 9.1 INSURANCE SERVICES ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER

17/026

Resolved

THAT Council accepts the tender submitted by Jardine Lloyd Thompson for the provision of insurance brokerage services (including insurance coverage) to Council for a three (3) year period commencing 1 July 2017 and expiring on the 30 June 2020 at \$284,412 (broker fee inclusive) per annum.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Morris)

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

17/027

Resolved

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 8.53pm.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Ciccia)

The Mayor advised that during the Closed Council one resolution was passed. The General Manager read out the resolution made in Closed Council for Item 9.1.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

..... signed by
the Chairman of the meeting held on
22/03/2017 at which meeting the
signature hereon was subscribed.