

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 REID STREET, WILCANNIA  
ON TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2021**

**PRESENT:** Administrator, Bob Stewart

**IN ATTENDANCE:** General Manager, Greg Hill  
Director Shire Services, Reece Wilson  
Senior Finance Officer, Gemma Dillon  
Senior Planner, Glenda Dunn  
Acting Rates Officer, Darryl Telfer  
Community Engagement Officer, Jennie Geerdink  
Finance Manager, Kevin Smith

Present: Three members of the community were in attendance.

#### **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared open at 9.20am.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

An acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land was delivered by the Administrator, Bob Stewart.

#### **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

#### **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW Councillors and Council staff are required to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

**Recommendation:**

That the Disclosures of Interest – Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary be received and noted.  
No declarations were received.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

##### **5.1 ORDINARY MEETING – 24 February 2021**

**Resolved**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 February be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

**Minute Number: 01.03.21**

## **5.2 BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

### **MAYORAL (ADMINISTRATOR) MINUTE(S)**

#### **6.1 MARCH 2021 ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**

**Minute Number: 02.03.21**

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### **7.1 GRANTS REGISTER RECONCILIATION**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and adopt the report.**

**Minute Number: 03.03.21**

#### **7.2 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES AUCTION RESULTS**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**
- 2. Note that monthly reports will be provided to Council until such time that the contracts of sales have been completed and the sale of processed finalised.**

**Minute Number: 04.03.21**

#### **7.3 CASH AND INVESTMENTS – NOVEMBER 2020**

**Resolved:**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**

**Minute Number: 05.03.21**

#### **7.4 SMART WATER METERS, METER READING AND BILLING UPDATE**

**Resolved:**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**
- 2. Receive quarterly reports on water meter reading, billing and collections commencing in April 2021**
- 3. Receive a report regarding completion of smart metering of filtered water services in Ivanhoe and Wilcannia at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 28 April 2021.**
- 4. That a report be brought forward on the breakdown of outstanding amounts by service area and indication if there is anything owing by government agencies.**

**Minute Number: 06.03.21**

### **GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

#### **8.1 CALL FOR MOTIONS FOR WESTERN DIVISION COUNCILS AND MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive the report and endorse the following motions:**
- 2. That the Murray Darling Association calls on the NSW Government to support the listing of the environmental and culturally significant Menindee Lakes system as a Ramsar site.**
- 3. That the NSW and Federal Governments recognises that the Menindee Lakes System, located on the lower Darling River, has significant environmental and cultural significance, and that steps be taken to ensure the system is operated to preserve these values by delivering adequate water flows.**
- 4. That the Murray Darling Association supports the demands of the Lower Darling River communities for a fair go, to ensure a healthy connected river to the junction of the Murray River, particularly in first flow events by prioritising these flows over irrigation extraction.**
- 5. A new approach is required for the funding of Capital Water Infrastructure (treatment plants and storage) for Far Western rural and remote Councils, with an alternative model that the State Government meet the full cost of all new capital works and ownership of the asset. State Government would contract out to the local authority operational aspects, thus removing the burden of depreciation on the local authority (Western Division Council conference only).**

**Minute Number: 07.03.21**

## **8.2 CHANGE OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR APRIL AND MAY**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report**
- 2. April's Ordinary Council meeting to be rescheduled to Thursday 22 April 2021, commencing at 11am.**
- 3. May's Ordinary Council meeting to be rescheduled to Thursday 20 May 2021, commencing at 11am.**

**Minute Number: 08.03.21**

## **8.3 DIGITAL (WEB AND SOCIAL MEDIA) POLICY**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Put the draft Policy on public exhibition inviting comment for 28 days, after which, taking into account any comments, it will be adopted as a Policy of Council.**

**Minute Number: 09.03.21**

## **BUSINESS SERVICES REPORTS**

### **9.1 PROVISION OF HOME CARE SERVICES INCLUDING MEALS ON WHEELS IN IVANHOE**

**Resolved**

**That Council will:**

- 1. Receive and note the report;**
- 2. Cease to provide home care services in Ivanhoe at this time with the provision that the decision be monitored should the situation change;**
- 3. Return any unexpended grant funds to the appropriate funding body/ies.**

**Minute Number: 10.03.21**

## **SHIRE SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 WATER AND SEWER UPDATE**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**

**Minute Number: 11.03.21**

### **10.2 SERVICE UPDATE**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**

**Minute Number: 12.03.21**

### **10.3 ROADS AND AERODROMES REPORT**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**

**Minute Number: 13.03.21**

### **10.4 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN**

**Resolved**

- 1. Receive and note the report.**
- 2. Approve the Community Participation Plan to go on public exhibition for a period of 28 days**
- 3. After the exhibition period, taking into account any comments, receive a further report to formally adopt the document and place it on the NSW Planning Portal and Council's website**

**Minute Number: 14.03.21**

### **10.5 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED THROUGH THE NSW PLANNING PORTAL**

**Resolved**

**That Council will:**

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Note the Information in regard to number of development applications approved by delegated authority and submitted and processed through the NSW Planning Portal in the first two months of 2021.**

**Minute Number: 15.03.21**

## **10.6 PUBLIC HEARING FOR PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR COMMUNITY LAND AT LOTS 2, 3 AND 4 DP 1201089, AND LOT 111 DP 1201028 BONNEY STREET WILCANNIA**

**Resolved**

**That Council will:**

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Note the Information in regard to the statutory requirement under the Local Government Act 1993 requiring a public hearing to be held where a new Plan of Management introduces a new category for community land. The Plan of Management is for the new category or 'General Community Use and for the new use of "Community health facility" for the land at Lots 2, 3 and 4 DP 1201089, and Lot 111 DP 1201028, Bonney Street.**
- 3. Note that a public hearing for the new Plan of Management introducing a new category for community land is to be held at the council chambers at 21 Reid Street Wilcannia on 28 April 2021 at 7:30pm**

**Minute Number: 16.03.21**

## **11. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **11.1 POONCARIE ROAD – ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

**Due to time constraints and the urgency of the situation, the Director Shire Services delivered a verbal report in lieu of a written report.**

**Here is a summary of the information provided:**

- Work was halted on the project from 12N on Tuesday 16 March, after Council received a call from the Heritage Office of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- They had received a report that Council had knocked over scar trees and harmed Aboriginal cultural elements.
- Council complied and stopped work for further investigation. A site visit was made and numerous photographs were taken and GPS co-ordinates were collected.
- Council has followed environmental due diligence in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.
- Full Aboriginal heritage assessments were carried out by archaeologists, the local Aboriginal Land Council and the Barkindji Native Title Group.
- Everything identified in the AHIP (Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit) has been documented.
- Council's environmental due diligence is good and that has been acknowledged by the compliance and reporting unit of the Heritage Office.
- Questions have been asked about resumption of works; my recommendation is that we don't recommence work until the Administrator, the General Manager and Council are satisfied that we have complied with all directions and environmental due diligence.
- Following a recommendation from the Heritage Office, Council has engaged an independent environmental consultant to assess all documents, photos and other information as well as the photos of the alleged scar tree removal.
- As soon as feedback is available it will be provided to both Heritage Office for assessment and Council for information.

**Resolved**

**That Council will:**

- 1. Receive and note the report**

**Minute Number: 17.03.21**

**MEETING CLOSE**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.56am

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Central Darling Shire Council held on Wednesday,

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**ADMINISTRATOR**