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UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Oberon Council Ordinary Meeting
Tuesday 19 August 2014

Commencing at 5.30pm
at the Oberon Council Chambers

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1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor welcomed members and declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council acknowledges that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri and Gundungurra People, and respects the history and culture of the elders both past and present.

3. PRAYER

The Meeting was opened in prayer by Pastor Andy Godden.

4. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Members	Mayor John McMahon (in the Chair) Deputy Mayor Kerry Gibbons Clr Ian Doney Clr Jill Evans Clr Neil Francis Clr Sam Lord Clr Clive McCarthy Clr John Morgan Clr Kathy Sajowitz
Staff	Alan Cairney, General Manager Gary Wallace, Planning and Development Director Aruna Wickramasinghe, Works and Engineering Director Sharon Swannell, Executive Coordinator
Apologies	Lynette Safranek, Finance and Community Services Director

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

File No: Governance/Councillors/Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary	-	Nil
Non-Pecuniary Significant	-	Nil
Non-Pecuniary Less than Significant	-	Nil

6. GENERAL AND CIVIC PRESENTATIONS

The General Manager presented Certificates to Councillors who attended Local Government Professionals Finance for Non Finance Managers Training held on 4 August 2014.

7. COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

Robbie Armstrong addressed Council about the condition of Spring Mount Road. He said there are 13 dwellings on the road and the road is a disgrace. There is nowhere for water to drain off the road, broken pipes, potholes etc. The road has not been gravelled in past 16 years. Robbie asked if Council would consider sealing the 1.5km section of Gingkin Road to access these properties?

The Mayor advised that Councillors will be conducting a Road Inspection on 4 September 2014 and this area will be added to the schedule.

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting 15 July 2014

Moved: Sajowitz
Second: Morgan

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 July 2014 be confirmed.

Carried 01 190814

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nil

9. MAYORAL MINUTE AND REPORT

09.01 MAYORAL MINUTE AND REPORT

File No: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary
Author: Clr John McMahon, Mayor

Summary

This report summarises the main activity for the Mayor since reported to the July Council Meeting.

Moved: Evans
Second: Lord

That Report Item 09.01 is received as information.

Carried 02 190814

10. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

10.01 NOTICE OF MOTION – GRAVEL QUARRIES

File No: Roads/Service Provision/Quarries
Author: Clr Kathy Sajowitz

Summary

That prompt and serious consideration is given to the purchase of a gravel pit with the intent of cost saving on the procurement of gravel.

Moved: Sajowitz
Second: Morgan

That Council investigate the purchase of a gravel pit in the area and bring back to Council within two months the feasibility and cost analysis of where savings could be made through this course of action.

That an assessment of the gravel (product) be undertaken to determine its suitability.

Carried 03 190814

10.02 NOTICE OF MOTION – 2014/15 BUDGET

File No: Financial Management/Budgeting
Author: Clr Clive McCarthy

Summary

That Council bring in a balanced budget for the 2014/14 financial year.

Moved: McCarthy
Second: Doney

That Oberon Council staff work on a program to bring in a balanced budget for the year 2014/15 and not dip into existing reserves to carry out operations in year 2014/15 unless a vote from Council considers a project worthy.

Amendment Moved: Doney
Second: Lord

That Council seek to bring a balanced budget in the next financial year and bring the budget for the current financial year in with a significant reduction in the amount forecast to be used from Council unrestricted reserves.

The Amendment was put and Lost, the original Motion stands.

Moved: McCarthy
Second: Doney

That Oberon Council staff work on a program to bring in a balanced budget for the year 2014/15 and not dip into existing reserves to carry out operations in year 2014/15 unless a vote from Council considers a project worthy.

The Motion was put and Lost.

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11. COUNCILLOR AND DELEGATES REPORTS

11.01 CENTROC HEALTH WORKFORCE MEETING

File No: Governance/Ordinary

Author: Lynette Safranek, Finance & Community Services Director

Summary

Councillor John Morgan and Council's Finance & Community Services Director attended the last meeting of the Centroc Health Workforce. A summary of the meeting is provided for Council's information.

Moved: Morgan

Second: Francis

That report item 11.01 is received as information.

Carried 04 190814

11.02 RFS ZONE LIAISON MEETING

File No: Governance/Ordinary

Author: Lynette Safranek, Finance & Community Services Director

Summary

Councillors McCarthy and Francis attended the last meeting of the RFS Zone Liaison with the Finance and Community Services Director and the Works Manager in Kelso on 23 July 2014.

Moved: McCarthy

Second: Francis

That Report Item 11.02 is received as information.

Carried 05 190814

11.03 UPPER MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

File No: Environmental Management/Meetings/Upper Macquarie County Council

Author: Clr John McMahon, Mayor

Summary

Councillor Francis and the Mayor, Clr John McMahon are delegates to the Upper Macquarie County Council.

Moved: McCarthy

Second: Francis

That delegate report item 11.03 is received as information.

Carried 06 190814

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.01 SENIOR WELFARE COMMITTEE

File: Governance/Meetings/Seniors Welfare Committee
Author: Lynette Safranek, Finance & Community Services Committee

Summary

Minutes of the Senior Welfare Committee Meeting held on 7 July 2014 are submitted for Council's information and consideration.

It is noted that Keith Sullivan who is a member of the Seniors Welfare Committee raised concern with the General Manager that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2014 are not correct. The minutes state that "Keith produced a process document for addressing the options for Hathaway. This document was considered to be too forward thinking."

He states the wording of this paragraph is misleading as he thinks it suggests that the Committee had this opinion (rather than the Chair). He also advised that the document wasn't tabled at the meeting.

Moved: McCarthy
Second: Morgan

That the Finance & Community Services Director investigate the current Lease and Fire Inspection Report for the Hathaway Cottages building and report back to the next Seniors Welfare Committee meeting.

Carried 07 190814

12.02 OBERON YOUTH COUNCIL

File: Governance/Meetings/Oberon Youth Council
Author: Lynette Safranek, Finance & Community Services Committee

Summary

Minutes of the Oberon Youth Council Meeting held on 22 July 2014 are submitted for Council's information and consideration.

Moved: McCarthy
Second: Lord

That Council approve the following recommendations:

1. That the Oberon Youth Council hold Informal Briefing Sessions on the Tuesday prior to their formal meeting, commencing at 4.30pm.
2. That a Youth Creative Collection Exhibition for youth aged 12-25 years, on a weekend to be determined, in November 2014.
3. That Oberon Youth Council investigate requirements involved in securing a facility suitable as a Youth Centre within Oberon.
4. That the Oberon Council submit a team to compliment the Oberon Youth Council team entering the Can Assist Fundraising Fun Run being organised by David Sellers.

Carried 08 190814

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12.03 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

File: Governance/Ordinary/August 2014

Author: Lynette Safranek, Finance & Community Services Committee

Summary

Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 31 July 2014 are submitted for Council's information and consideration.

Moved: Morgan
Second: Lord

That Council receive this report for information.

Carried 09 190814

13. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

13.01 MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – GENERAL MANAGER

File No: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary

Author: Alan Cairney, General Manager

Summary

This report item summaries the main activity by the General Manager during July including Human Resources and Workplace Health & Safety, Executive Support matters, Information Technology & Communications, Community Activity, Regional Issues, Executive Management Team, and details of planned activity for the coming months.

13.02 MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

File: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary

Author: Gary Wallace, Planning and Development Director

Summary

Providing details of major work within the Planning & Development Department for July.

13.03 MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT - WORKS AND ENGINEERING

File: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary

Author: Aruna Wickramasinghe, Works and Engineering Director, Ian Tucker, Works Manager

Summary

Providing a summary of the major work in the Works and Engineering Department for July.

13.04 MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – FINANCE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

File No: Financial Management/Financial Reporting/Periodic Reports

Author: Lynette Safranek, Finance and Community Services Director

Summary

This report provides a summary of major work within the Finance and Community Services Department during July 2014.

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13.05 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

File No: Financial Management/Investments/Register
Author: Tim Booth, Management Accountant

Summary

Reporting the Statement of Investments as at 31 July 2014.

13.06 INTERIM IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN

File No: Corporate Management
Author: Alan Cairney, General Manager

Summary

An Interim Improvement Action Plan is in place to address concerns about current Work Practices associated with Road Construction on Local Sealed Roads. A number of initiatives have been implemented by the General Manager and the Works & Engineering Director and a monthly progress report is submitted pending a reassessment in December 2014.

13.07 COUNCILLOR REQUEST FORMS

File No: Governance/Councillors
Author: Alan Cairney, General Manager

Summary

Providing an update on the status of Councillor Request Forms submitted during the last month.

13.08 MEDIA

File No: Information Management/Information and Communications/Media Releases
Author: Carolyn Hendry, Information and Communications Officer

Summary

The Report Item provides a list of Media Releases issued during July 2014 and a sample of Media Articles where Council is mentioned.

13.09 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

File No: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary
Author: Sharon Swannell, Executive Assistant

Summary

The Report Item provides a summary of incoming correspondence for the period 1 – 31 July 2014.

13.10 UPCOMING MEETINGS

File No: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary
Author: Sharon Swannell, Executive Assistant

Summary

A calendar of upcoming meetings is provided for information.

13.11 STATUS REPORT – ACTIONING COUNCIL DECISIONS

File No: Governance/Meetings/Ordinary
Author: Sharon Swannell, Executive Assistant

Summary

Providing details of the status in actioning Council decisions, with reference to the actual Resolution Number as shown in the Minutes for each Council Meeting.

Moved: Doney
Second: Francis

That Report Items 13.01 to 13.11 is received as information.

Carried 10 190814

14. REPORTS FOR DECISION

14.01 CENTROC ROAD SIGNS CONTRACT

File No: Financial Management/Purchasing and Procurement
Author: Matilda Henderson, Engineering Administrative Assistant

Summary

This report seeks endorsement to participate in a Central NSW Councils (Centroc) initiative for the Regional Road Signs Contract and purchase of road signs through their Compliance and Cost Savings Program through their Supply Management Team.

Oberon Council has participated in Centroc's Regional Contract for the purchase of road signs for the past 9 years.

Moved: Sajowitz
Second: McCarthy

That Council endorse the participation in the Regional Road Signs Contract for a further 2 years.

Carried 11 190814

14.02 TOURISM AWARDS

File No: Economic Development/Regional Tourism
Author: Alan Cairney, General Manager and Sharon Swannell, Executive Coordinator

Summary

The Blue Mountains Lithgow Oberon Regional Tourism Awards for Excellence 2014 were announced at an Awards Presentation on Friday 8 August 2014 at Scenic World, Katoomba.

Oberon Council were successful in winning Gold Awards for the two Categories entered – the Oberon Visitor Information Centre won the Gold Award for Category 9 Visitor Information and Services and Oberon Council won the Gold Award for Category 19 Local Government Award for Tourism.

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By winning these Gold Awards we are automatic finalists for the 2014 NSW Tourism Awards. If successful at these Awards we become finalists for the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards.

Moved: McCarthy
Second: Lord

That the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to make arrangements for participation at the 2014 NSW Tourism Awards and Qantas Australian Tourism Awards.

Carried 12 190814

14.03 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE – COUNCILLOR DONEY

File No: HR/Councillors
Author: Alan Cairney, General Manager

Summary

Councillor Ian Doney has requested leave of absence for the period Monday 15 September 2014 to Monday 20 October 2014.

Moved: McCarthy
Second: Lord

That Councillor Doney request for leave of absence from 15 September to 20 October 2014 be accepted and leave of absence granted.

Carried 13 190814

15. URGENT BUSINESS

Summary

In accordance with Clause 241 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 business may be transacted at a meeting of Council even though due notice of the business has not been given to the Councillors. However, this can happen only if:

- a) A motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting: and
- b) The business proposed to be brought forward is ruled by the Chairperson to be of great urgency.

Councillor McCarthy suggested a second terminal be added to the reception area for busy periods particularly during rates payment time.

The Mayor acknowledged the service provided by Aruna Wickramasinghe who is leaving Oberon Council and on behalf of all Councillors passed on their best wishes for the future.

Aruna addressed Council outlining the achievements of the Works and Engineering Department over the past three years and thanked Councillors for their support.

16. CLOSED SESSION / CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Summary

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.

There are no Closed Session Reports listed for Council's consideration.

17. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7.36pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Oberon Council will be held on:

Tuesday 16 September 2014,
commencing at 5.30pm

in the Oberon Council Chambers,
137 – 139 Oberon Street, Oberon.