

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 REID STREET, WILCANNIA
ON WEDNESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2021**

PRESENT: Administrator, Bob Stewart – via Video

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager, Greg Hill – via Video
Director Shire Services, Reece Wilson – via Video
Director Business Services, Gordon Seeto – via Video
Human Resource Officer, Evelyn Pollard – via Video
Manager of Finance, Kevin Smith – via Video
Community Engagement Officer, Jennie Geerdink – via Video
Project Planner, Glenda Dunn – via Video
Acting Rates Officer, Darryl Telfer – via Video
Executive Assistant, Jamie Parsons – via Video

1. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting was declared open at 9am.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

4. 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:

NIL Disclosures of Interest were addressed.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 ORDINARY MEETING – 25 AUGUST 2021

Resolved

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 August 2021 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

Minute Number: 01-09-21

5.2 BUSINESS ARISING

NIL

6. MAYORAL (ADMINISTRATOR) MINUTE(S)

6.1 ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

The Administrator made a comment in relation to his report and stated that he would like to acknowledge the communities response to the COVID outbreak and all the Agencies and NGO's working together during this time. Vaccination and testing in compliance with the health orders are the only way we will move out of this and go back to our previous way of life. For the future, Central Darling Shire Council has convened a Recovery Committee and the first meeting will be held this week. The Administrator will be chairing the group and has already held discussions with staff at Resilience NSW. Recovery is different to Response, and this will be continued to be coordinated by the LEMC until the emergency is concluded. The good news for this week was that the Menindee RFS Unit was qualified as a Road Rescue Unit, and this is critically important for the safety of the residents given the vast network of roads within the Shire. The Administrator extended his thanks to the Members.

The Administrator asked the General Manager to provide a current update on the COVID situation in the Shire for the moment.

The General Manager stated that since the last scheduled Council Meeting, the mobile home vans have been set up in the Victory Caravan Park in Wilcannia, these vans were organised for members of the public to have a safe place to isolate. The RFS Camp has been set up at Bourke Oval which is currently housing RFS, SES, some ADF and Police workers for accommodation.

The food shed that is located next to the Council Chambers is fully operational and is delivering food hampers to those who are currently vulnerable or desperate for food items throughout Wilcannia, which is also extended throughout the rest of the Shire.

Within the last week, things have tapered off, numbers of cases have declined considerably from COVID compared to two (2) weeks ago. There are currently around 46 cases that are active in the community at the moment and those people are currently in isolation and were infected from other members within their household.

Moving forward as mentioned about, the Recovery Committee is set up and are meeting tomorrow for the first time. They will be meeting on a weekly to fortnightly basis to start off with and then could potentially move to a monthly basis in the future.

The General Manager stated that he doesn't seeing cases being brought down to zero within the foreseeable future for the next two (2) to three (3) weeks. There are zero cases recorded down in Menindee at the moment, however there are around 26 people that are currently in isolation. Those people, as of today, will be getting their day 10 test and hopefully they will all come back Negative for COVID and they will be able to come out of isolation in another four (4) days time.

The Local State Member, Mr Butler, has requested that White Cliffs and Ivanhoe to come out of self-isolation and look at being locked into a bubble arrangement which is very similar to other Regional Areas in NSW.

The Administrator stated that Council has also lodged a submission to the NSW Housing Taskforce on the issue of Housing across the Shire of Social Housing. This submission has been lodged and is available on the Council Website:

<https://www.centraldarling.nsw.gov.au/Council/Policies-and-Plans/Regional-Housing>

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 02-09-21

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – COUNTRY WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION, IVANHOE BRANCH

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Approve financial assistance of \$1,000 to the Country Women’s Association, Ivanhoe Branch under the Council’s Community Grants Policy to partially cover the annual service charges levied on Columbus Street, Ivanhoe NSW for the 2021-22 period.

Minute Number: 03-09-21

7.2 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – COUNTY WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION, WHITE CLIFFS BRANCH

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Approve financial assistance of \$993.00 to the Country Women’s Association, White Cliffs Branch under the Council’s Community Grants Policy to cover the annual services charges for the 2020-2021 period on its Johnson Street, White Cliffs Property.
3. Approve financial assistance of \$1,000 to the Country Women’s Association, White Cliffs Branch under the Council’s Community Grants Policy to cover the annual services charges for the 2021-22 period on its Johnson Street, White Cliffs Property.

Minute Number: 04-09-21

The Administrator requested that 7.1 and 7.2 be included into the Grants Budget and to be adopted into Council.

7.3 ADOPTION OF DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Resolved

1. In relation to the Financial Statements and in accordance with *Section 413 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended)*:
 - (a) Council resolved that, in its opinion, the Draft General-Purpose Financial Statements and the Draft Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 and Draft Special Schedules are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993, (as amended)* and the *Regulations* thereunder.
 - (b) The Financial Statement be approved by the Mayor (Administrator), the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer.
2. The Financial Statement be referred to Council’s Auditor for auditing.
3. The Audited Financial Statement be forwarded to the Office of Local Government by 30 November 2021.

4. The General Manager be delegated authority to, after Council receives a copy of the Audited Financial Statements and the Auditor's report, place the Audited Financial Statements on Public Exhibition, and give notice that Council will present its Audited Financial Statements at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 24 November 2021.
5. The audited Financial Statements be presented at the meeting of Council to be held on 24 November 2021 in accordance with *Section 419 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended)*.

Minute Number: 05-09-21

7.4 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES – CREDIT CARD POLICY

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Develop a new Credit Card Policy, to be tabled at Council's October 2021 meeting.

Minute Number: 06-09-21

7.5 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AUGUST 2021

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 07-09-21

7.5 (1) TABLED REPORT - CASH AND INVESTMENTS – AUGUST 2021

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 08-09-21

7.6 COUNCIL 2021-22 CURRENT GRANTS REGISTER

Resolved

1. Receive and adopt the report.

Minute Number: 09-09-21

8. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

8.1 HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 10-09-21

8.2 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE HON MELINDA PAVEY MP – INFORMATION ONLY

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 11-09-21

8.3 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE HON SHELLEY HANCOCK MP – INFORMATION ONLY

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 12-09-21

8.4 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE HON MARK COULTON MP – INFORMATION ONLY

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 13-09-21

8.5 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT – INFORMATION ONLY

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 14-09-21

9. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

NIL

10. SHIRE SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 POONCARIE ROAD – PROGRESS REPORT

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report for Pooncarie Road Initial Seal Construction.
2. The General Manager is to discuss with the Project Manager in relation to the over expenditure on the project which will be provided in a report.

Minute Number: 15-09-21

10.2 SERVICES UPDATE

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

2. Council is to look into the promotion of the Stronger Communities Funding Grounds investment for the Community Infrastructure in making the Shire more liveable.

Minute Number: 16-09-21

10.3 ROADS AND AEORDROMES REPORT

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.
2. The following construction will be carried out on the Local Roads Components under the FAGS:
 - a. Woore Street, Wilcannia (located at the northern end between Field Street and Macintyre Street) – new curbing, gutters, and rehabilitation of the pavement.
 - b. Trida Road (south of Ivanhoe which also merges onto the Moolah-Trida Road) – both roads are deteriorated over the years with no capital works or build-ups, continuous maintenance gradings, lowered sections are required to be built up in the flood prone areas that cause issues during times of wet weather.

Minute Number: 17-09-21

10.4 WATER AND SEWER UPDATE

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.

Minute Number: 18-09-21

11. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NIL

12. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

It was resolved that Council moved into Confidential to consider the matters listed in the confidential section of the agenda in accordance with Section 10A 2 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the reasons specified. Confidential section was closed to the public and began at 9.25am.

The Administrator reopened the Gallery at 9.28am and The General Manager reviewed the resolutions of the Confidential Matters and reported the following for the listed report:

12.1 SALE OF BONNEY STREET LAND TO MAARI MA ABORIGINAL HEALTH CORPORATION

Resolved

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Vary the Disposal of Assets Policy to facilitate the sale of Lots 2-4 DP 1201089 and Lot 111 DP 10201028, Bonney Street Wilcannia to Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation.

3. Authorise the General Manager to finalise the terms of sale for Lots 2-4 DP 1201089 and Lot 111 DP 10201028, Bonney Street Wilcannia to Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation for not less than the independent market valuation as provided in the Attachment from the Business Paper.
4. Authorise the fixation of the Common Seal to all necessary documentation associated with the Sale of Land.

Minute Number: 19-09-21

13. RESOLUTION TRACKER

13.1 RESOLUTION TRACKER – OUTSTANDING RESOLUTIONS

Resolved

1. The Resolution Tracker from the Council Meeting on the 25 August 2021 was received and noted.

Minute Number: 20-09-21

14. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.30am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Central Darling Shire Council held on Wednesday, 27 October 2021 at 9am.



ADMINISTRATOR