

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN**  
**THE**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 REID STREET, WILCANNIA**  
**ON WEDNESDAY, 26 AUGUST 2020.**

**PRESENT:** Administrator, Bob Stewart

**IN ATTENDANCE:** General Manager, Greg Hill  
Director Shire Services, Reece Wilson  
Director Business Services, Jacob Philp  
Manager Finance, Kevin Smith

## **1. OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared open at 9.02am.

## **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**

**Resolved**

1. That the Disclosures of Interest – Pecuniary and Non – Pecuniary be received and noted as NIL.

## **5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **5.1 ORDINARY MEETING – 22 JULY 2020**

**Resolved**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 July 2020 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

**Minute Number: 01-08-20**

### **5.2 BUSINESS ARISING**

NIL

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

### **6.1 ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 02-08-20**

## **7. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### **7.1 PROGRESS TOWARDS SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES AUCTIONS**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Note that monthly reports will be provided to Council until such time that the auctions have concluded, and the sale process has been finalised.

**Minute Number: 02-08-20**

### **7.2 ADOPT DRAFT LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2021-30**

**Resolved**

1. Receive the report on DRAFT Long Term Financial Plan 2021-30
2. Note that no Public Submissions were received during the exhibition period towards the DRAFT Long Term Financial Plan 2021-30
3. Adopt the DRAFT Long Term Financial Plan 2021-30
4. That the General Manager will respond to Roy Butler MP, Member for Barwon, of Council resolution.

**Minute Number: 03-08-20**

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

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 04-08-20**

### **7.4 COUNCIL 2020-21 CURRENT GRANTS REGISTER**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number:05-08-20**

## **8. GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

### **8.1 ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

**Resolved**

1. Receive the report
2. Adopt the Annual Community Service Awards policy and implement the framework.

**Minute Number: 06-08-20**

### **8.2 CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED – TABLED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 07-08-20**

### **8.3 MENINDEE SUSTAINABLE DIVERSION LIMITS ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (SDLAM), STAKEHOLDERS ADVISORY GROUP (SAG)**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.
2. That Council note the outcomes of a public meeting held in Menindee on 18 July 2020, rejecting the options for the Menindee Lakes Water Saving Project.
3. Council note the resolutions of Wentworth Shire Council and Broken Hill City Council at their August Council Meetings.
4. That Council writes to the Ministers Pavey and Marshall expressing its support for the position of the Stakeholder Advisory Group, in its letter dated 27 July 2020, noting that Council seeks to:
  - i. Ensure critical supply of water for the environment, cultural and human needs along the Darling, at Menindee and within the Lower Darling/Anabranche Systems in dry or low flow years.
  - ii. That the critical human needs of towns, cultural and stock & domestic water needs of riparian landowners are provided for, before access to irrigation is allowed in the Barwon-Darling and Northern Tributaries.
  - iii. Recognition of the importance of the protection of first flush events for the health of the river. Recent reports including the Matthews Report, Murray Darling Basins Authority Response to the Matthews report, the Vertessy Report into the Menindee Fish Kills, the academy of Science report into the Menindee fish kills and the NSW Natural Resources Commission Review of the Barwon-Darling Water Sharing Plan, all support this view.
  - iv. The setting of critical flow triggers for the Barwon-Darling and Lower Darling, and storage volumes in the Menindee Lakes be determined. This will ensure that the protection of the health of the river is made a priority before access to water for irrigation is allowed.
  - v. Note- there have been several previous targets recommended for this purpose in NSW, including the 'Interim North-West flow rules' developed in

the early 1990's and the environment contingency, included in the Lower Murray-Darling Water Sharing Plan. The flow targets included within these strategies provided for turning over water in the weir pools, providing for fish passage, and providing for the dispersal of blue-green algae. Current flow targets seem arbitrary and not linked to any outcomes.

- vi. A volume target for Lake Wetherell and Lake Pamamaroo in the Menindee Lakes Scheme, be set to provide for up to two years security of supply for the Lower Darling to prevent the potential for future fish kills. Suck volume would be consistent with the original intent of the management of the Menindee Lakes, to provide two years drought reserve for far-west NSW.

The above contributes to:

- a) Draw water past Burke, Louth, Tilpa, Menindee & Pooncarie to ensure a healthy connected river.
  - b) Provide for cultural outcomes conducive with a healthy river system.
  - c) Provide critical human needs of towns and stock & domestic water needs of Riparian landowners.
  - d) Aligns with recent government review.
  - e) Provides water quality, fish passage and connectivity
5. That Council requests that the NSW Government reengage with the Chair and Committee of the Stakeholder Advisory Group, in an open and transparent process, to ensure the views of the Menindee Community and all stakeholders form part of the decision-making process.
  6. That any draft proposal for the Menindee Lakes, Lower Darling/Anabranh systems be placed on public exhibition and the wider community of interest, be canvassed prior to any decision making on a final outcome by government.
  7. That Council advise the Wentworth Shire and Broken Hill City Council, of this resolution and seek an urgent meeting with ministers Pavey and Marshall to discuss the abovementioned recommendations.

**Minute Number: 08-08-20**

#### **8.4 DRAFT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Council endorse DRAFT Community Engagement Policy and place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

**Minute Number: 09-08-20.**

#### **8.5 MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 10-08-20**

#### **8.6 CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE BUSINESS CONTINUITY POLICY AND PLAN**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Endorse the Central Darling Shire Business Continuity Policy and Plan

**Minute Number: 11-08-20**

**9. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS**

NIL

**10. SHIRE SERVICES REPORTS**

**10.1 POONCARIE ROAD – PROJECT REPORT – AUGUST 2020**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 12-08-20**

**10.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES UPDATE**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 13-08-20**

**10.3 ROADS AND AERODROMES REPORT**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 14-08-20**

**10.4 ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY STATEMENTS**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.
2. That the inspection report of each Council premises recently undertaken for statutory fire safety measures, be obtained.

**Minute Number: 15-08-20**

**10.5 FOOD PREMISES INSPECTIONS**

**Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 16-08-20**

## **10.6 LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT**

### **Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.
2. That Council support the Planning Proposal.
3. That Council submit the supported Planning Proposal to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for Gateway Determination.
4. The Planning Proposal is for the reclassification of four (4) allotments, being lots 2, 3 & 4 DP 1201089, and lot 111 DP 1201028, from Community Land to Operational Land, and to discharge Council interests to facilitate the development of a health services facility thereon.

**Minute Number: 17-08-20**

## **10.7 SERVICES UPDATE**

### **Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 18-08-20**

## **10.8 WATER AND SEWER UPDATE**

### **Resolved**

1. Receive and note the report.

**Minute Number: 19-08-20**

## **11. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

NIL

## **12. MEETING CLOSE**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.24am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Central Darling Shire Council held on Wednesday, 23rd September 2020.

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**ADMINISTRATOR**