

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 21 AUGUST 2017 COMMENCING AT 9:50AM

PRESENT: Clrs D. Batten (Chairman), M. Beach, B. Fisher, M. Martinez, I. Woodcock, R. Lewis and P. Shinton

Staff Members: D. Ramsland (General Manager), A. Fletcher (Senior Weeds Officer), and A. Carraro (Minute Secretary)

1. **WELCOME:** Clr Batten welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES:** A. Brewer, G. Peart and M. Webb

8/17/1 Resolved:

That apologies from A. Brewer, G. Peart and M. Webb be accepted and leave of absence be granted.

Moved: Clr Fisher
Seconded: Clr Lewis

Carried

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**- Nil
4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
- 5.

8/17/2 Resolved:

That the minutes of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held at Coonamble on Monday 26 June, 2017, having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Martinez
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

1. The General Manager advised that he is still waiting to receive comment from the Office of Local Government in regards to the County's current structure.

7. **CHAIRMANS REPORT**

Chairman Clr Batten reported as follows:

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Clr Batten advised that at the Hudson Pear Taskforce Meeting held in Lightning Ridge on Wednesday 16th August a Model Terms of Reference, prepared by the North West Local Land Services for the group was tabled. Whilst subject to adoption by the Taskforce at its November meeting the document does provide for a clear way forward and in doing so places some responsibility on the Local Land Services to take 'ownership' of the problem.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council will continue to manage and treat roadsides and undertake private property inspections and will act as a funding conduit for grant funding. The positive thing to come out of the discussions is that CMCC will no longer be the control agent of last resort with the resultant risk of undertaking control work without the appropriate funding of resources.

At the HPTF Meeting Clr Batten was presented with a request from Ms Maxine O'Brien of the Lightning Ridge Miners Association in regard to the work undertaken by that organisation in relation to a Western Catchment Management Authority project (A copy of the request was tabled at the meeting). Delegates should recall that at the June 2017 meeting of the County it was resolved to write off an outstanding debt of \$40,000.

Clr Batten advised that the LRMA is requesting a minimum payment of \$3,257 plus \$3,115 of material, a total of \$6,372 in respect of work undertaken on the CMA project.

The LRMA is a long term partner in the efforts to control and ultimately eradicate Hudson pear in the Opal Fields. Clr Batten welcomed discussion on the County's request for payment.

8/17/3 Resolved:

That Council, in regards to the request received from the Lightning Ridge Miners Association, make a payment of \$6,372 in respect of the CMA project, subject to the LRMA providing an acquittance of the expenditure they have incurred to date.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

8/17/4 Resolved:

That the Chairman's report be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Batten

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Item 7.1 Reconciliation Certificate 30th June & 31st July 2017

Recommendation: That the Statement of Bank Balances as at 30 June and 31st July 2017 be received and noted.

8/17/5 Resolved:

That the Bank Reconciliation as at 30 June and 31st July 2017 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

Item 7.2 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – Period Ended 29 June, 2017

Recommendation: That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 29 June, 2017 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted and sufficient funds be transferred to the ELE Reserve so that the Long Service Leave balance is fully covered.

8/17/6 Resolved:

That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 29 June, 2017 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted and sufficient funds be transferred to the ELE Reserve so that the Long Service Leave balance is fully covered.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

Clr Shinton left the meeting room at 10:15am

Item 7.3. Annual Financial Statements 2016/2017

Recommendation:

1. The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2016/2017 be referred to Council's Auditor.
2. The Chairperson, nominated Councillor Ian Woodcock, the General Manager and Finance Officer be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements.
3. On receipt of the Audited Report, a copy be forwarded to the Department of Local Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
4. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and the Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and its requirements.

8/17/7 Resolved:

1. The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2016/2017 be referred to Council's Auditor.
2. The Chairperson, nominated Councillor Ian Woodcock, the General Manager and Finance Officer be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements.
3. On receipt of the Audited Report, a copy be forwarded to the Department of Local Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

4. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and the Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and its requirements.

Moved: Clr Fisher
Seconded: Clr Beach

Carried

Item 7.4. Organisational Action Plan – August 2017

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the General Manager's report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the new Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.

8/17/8 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the General Manager's report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the new Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.

Moved: Clr Lewis
Seconded: Clr Martinez

Carried

Item 7.5. Work Health and Safety (WH&S) for 2017/2018

Recommendation: That the General Manager's report in respect of the StateCover self-audit process be received and noted.

8/17/9 Resolved:

That the General Manager's report in respect of the StateCover self-audit process be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Beach

Carried

Item 7.6. Review of Council's Insurances 2017/2018

Recommendation: That the action taken to renew Council's insurance policies for 2017/2018 be endorsed and appropriate adjustment made to Council's budget where required.

8/17/10 Resolved:

That the action taken to renew Council's insurance policies for 2017/2018 be endorsed and appropriate adjustment made to Council's budget where required.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Lewis

Carried

Item 7.7. Adoption of Corporate Credit Card Policy

Recommendation: That Council adopt the attached draft credit card policy and that the limit for card purchases be \$5,000.

8/17/11 Resolved:

That Council adopt the attached draft credit card policy and that the limit for card purchases be \$5,000.

Moved: Clr Martinez

Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

Item 7.8. Related Parties Disclosure Policy

Recommendation: That Council adopt the Related Parties Disclosure Policy and associated compliance documents.

8/17/12 Resolved:

That Council adopt the Related Parties Disclosure Policy and associated compliance documents.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

Clr Shinton returned to the meeting room at 10:36am

Item 7.9 Matters for Brief Mention or Generally for Information Only

Recommendation: That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager's report to the August, 2017 meeting be received and noted and that the Chairperson and General Manager circulate Bi-annual media releases outlining the County's activities and that the Senior Weeds Officer take on board Clr Capel's comments.

8/17/13 Resolved:

That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager's report to the August, 2017 meeting be received and noted and that the Chairperson and General Manager circulate Bi-annual media releases outlining the County's activities and that the Senior Weeds Officer take on board Clr Capel's comments.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

8. SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER'S REPORT

Item 8.1 Senior Weeds Officer's Report

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Senior Weeds Officer's Report.

8/17/14 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Senior Weeds Officer's report for August 2017.

Moved: Clr Shinton
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

Item 8.3 Bi-Monthly Weed Inspectors Reporting – June to July 2017

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Bi-Monthly Property Inspections, Infestation and Treatment Report from Inspectors for the period of April to May 2017.

6/17/16 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Bi-Monthly Property Inspections, Re-Inspections, Infestation and Treatment Report from Inspectors for the period of June to July 2017.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Lewis

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Clr Lewis asked that the Senior Weeds Officer arrange for the pear infestation along the Castlereagh River between the Neilrex and Mendooran area to be inspected.

Clr Batten noted the very sad news that Mr Jim McCalman passed away 12 August 2017. Mr McCalman dedicated 42 years to Warren Shire Council as a councillor and Deputy Mayor and as OROC Chair during the 1990's.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 20 November, 2017 at Gilgandra.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 11:20AM.

To be confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 20 November 2017.

CHAIRMAN

GENERAL MANAGER