

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COONAMBLE ON MONDAY 22nd JUNE 2026 COMMENCING AT 10:30AM

PRESENT: Member D Batten, Member N Kinsey, Member P Fisher, Member M Cooke, Member D Bell, Member G Peart, Member P Heuston, Member Z Holcombe, Member G Rummery and Member M Garnsey.

ABSENT: Member Peart and Member Fisher

STAFF MEMBERS: M. Urquhart (General Manager) via Teams, A. Fletcher (Senior Biosecurity Officer) and R Wilson (Minute Secretary)

WELCOME: Meeting was opened at 10:30am and Chairman Member Batten, welcomed all Members and staff to the meeting.

03/26/01 Leave of Absence

Recommendation:

That the leave of absence received from Member Greg Peart and Member Paul Fisher is accepted and a leave of absence is granted.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Heuston

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

10:35am – The Senior Biosecurity Officer joined the meeting

03/26/02 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 11th May 2026

Resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 11th May 2026, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Garnsey

Carried

It was requested by Members that the General Manager make formal contact with the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) seeking clarification regarding a particular concern raised by Council.

Council Members are seeking a response to the following question:

Why are members of the public permitted to import and sell cacti when there is concern that additional invasive cactus species may escape cultivation and establish in the environment, similar to the impacts experienced with Hudson Pear?

Members expressed concern that it may only be a matter of time before other cactus species become uncontrolled following escape from residential gardens, resulting in further biosecurity risks.

This request follows advice provided by the DPI Biosecurity Commissioner, who directed that the enquiry be referred to an appropriate DPI representative for response at the May 2026 CMCC Council meeting.

03/26/03 Recision of 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice

Recommendation:

That: Council formally rescind resolution 01/26/07 passed at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on the 23rd February 2026 which states.

“That Council have not received any submissions from the community, formally adopts the “Code of Meeting Practice as tabled”

Moved: Member Garnsey

Seconded: Member Holcombe

Carried

03/26/04 Correspondence – June 2026

Recommendation:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

Moved: Member Holcombe

Seconded: Member Garnsey

Carried

03/26/05 Reports of Committees**Recommendation:**

That the reports from the following committees be received and noted;

- North West Regional Weed Officer – Meeting Minutes 13th May 2026
- Central West Regional Weeds Committee – Meeting Minutes 14th May 2026

Moved: Member Bell

Seconded: Member Cooke

Carried

10:40am Member Rummary joined the meeting.

03/26/06 Council's Decision Action Report – June 2026**Resolved:**

That the Resolution Register for June 2026 be received and noted.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Heuston

Carried

Member Penny Heuston requested an update on the letterbox drop and mailout to landholders with information flyers for noxious weed and appropriate controls relative to each Shire.

The General Manager advised that the Senior Biosecurity officer was developing the flyer and pamphlets would be distributed in due course.

03/26/07 Circulars Received from the NSW Office of Local Government**Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 26-05 to 26-07 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Rummary

Carried

03/26/08 Cash and Investment Reports – 30th April 2026 and 31st May 2026**Resolved:**

That the investment report for 30th April 2026 and 31st May 2026 be received and noted.

Moved: Member Garnsey

Seconded: Member Bell

Carried

03/26/09 Member Fees, Local Government Remuneration Tribunal**Resolved:**

That the Member Fees be set at the minimum level set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal for a County Council Category.

- a) The member fee for 2026/2027 be fixed at \$2,170
- b) The Chairperson fee for 2026/2027 be fixed at \$4,660
- c) Makes a superannuation contribution payment of 12% to its Members in accordance with section 254B of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Moved: Member Holcombe

Seconded: Member Garnsey

03/26/10 Draft 2026/27 Operational Plan, 2025/26 to 2028/29 Delivery Program as amended and LTFP 2026/27 to 2035/36 including Asset Management Plan and Workforce Strategic Plan**Resolved:**

That Council, not having received any submissions by the 9th June 2026 now formally adopts the Operational Plan for 2026/2027 (Scenario 1), Delivery Program 25/26 to 28/29 as amended, Long Term Financial Plan 26/27 to 35/36, Asset Management Plan 26/27 to 35/36 and Workforce Strategy.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Rummery

03/26/11 Audit Risk Improvement Committee (ARIC) – Strategic Work Plan and Annual Work Plan
Resolved:

That the Council formally adopt the CMCC ARIC Strategic Work Plan 25/26 to 28/29 and Annual Work Plan for 26/27.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Heuston

Carried

03/26/12 Accounts Payable and Payroll Change Control Policy
Resolved:

That ;

1.the report be received.

2. Council adopts the Accounts Payable and Payroll Change Control Policy as tabled.

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Rummery

03/26/13 Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors - Policy
Resolved:

That ;

1.the General Manager's report be received.

2. Council adopts the Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors policy as tabled.

3. the policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and public submissions be invited.

Moved: Member Bell

Seconded: Member Holcombe

03/26/14 Important Dates for Members - Upcoming Meetings & Events

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

Moved: Member Heuston

Seconded: Member Cooke

Carried

Discussion was held regarding the August 2026 CMCC Council Meeting. It was proposed that the meeting be conducted in Gilgandra on Monday, 31 August 2026, following a tour of the township on Sunday, 30 August 2026, which is to include a visit to Cactus World. The Administration Officer is to coordinate and make the necessary formal arrangements for both the tour and meeting logistics.

03/26/15 Quarterly Biosecurity Report

Resolved:

That the report be received and noted.

Moved: Member Garnsey

Seconded: Member Holcombe

Carried

Members of Council requested a list of weeds that have recently been removed from the Weed Wise list, as per the announcement from the Senior Biosecurity Officer during her verbal report to Council.

03/26/16 Move Into Closed Session

Time: 11:15am

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

(2) (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)

Moved: Member Kinsey

Seconded: Member Bell

03/26/17 Confidential – General Managers Annual Performance Review

Resolved:

That members note my report in regard to Mr Urquhart's Annual Performance Review.

Moved: Member Batten

Seconded:

Carried

03/26/18 Return to Open Session

Recommendation:

That Council return to open session

Moved: Member Rummery

Seconded: Member Holcombe

03/26/19 Adoption of Closed Session Reports

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the recommendations of the Close Committee Reports.

Moved: Member Batten

Seconded: Member Kinsey

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 11:25am

Chairman

General Manager