



PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY 5 JULY 2005

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parkes Shire Council held at the Council Administration Centre, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes, commencing at 1:30 pm for the purpose of considering the items included on the Agenda.

GENERAL MANAGER: Alan McCormack

Ordinary Meeting

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Council Chambers, 2 Cecile Street on 5 July 2005 at 1.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillor R I Wilson, (in the Chair)
Councillor P Byrne
Councillor J H Magill
Councillor B J Laing
Councillor W Scott

Councillor Y Hutton
Councillor K McGrath
Councillor G Pratt
Councillor B Newton

IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager - A McCormack
Director Corporate Service - B Matthews
Director Planning & Environment - S Campbell
Director Infrastructure - K Boyd
Administration Manager - L Finn
Economic Development Manager – M Greenwood
Tourism Coordinator – M Kronk
Minutes Secretary - T Prior

MEETING COMMENCEMENT

The Meeting commenced at 1.30pm.

1 PRAYER

The Mayor asked the General Manager to open proceedings with a prayer.

2 APOLOGIES

05 - 533 Resolution

Councillor Ken Keith be granted leave of absence (REASON: Absent from Parkes).

Moved Councillor Wayne Scott, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

05 - 534 Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parkes Shire Council held on 21 June 2005, copies of which have been forwarded to Councillors, be confirmed.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Patrick Byrne.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil.

6 NOTICES OF MOTION/RESCISSION

Nil.

7 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nil.

8 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

9 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Nil.

10 DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES' REPORT

10.1 (DCS) Web Site Community Awareness and Training Grant

Executive Summary

Council has received a grant of \$2,250 from the LGSA Online Solutions group. The grant will be used to launch Council's updated web site and to conduct training for community groups and businesses to update their own information in the new Community Directory area. The project will begin with a public launch at the Council Meeting to be held on 2 August 2005.

Recommendation

1. That Council accept the grant and complete all necessary documentation
2. That Council agree to publicly launch the project with afternoon tea at the meeting to be held on 2 August 2005
3. That resources be allocated to conduct the launch and workshops as outlined in the attached report.

05 - 535 Resolution

1. That Council accept the grant and complete all necessary documentation
2. That Council agree to publicly launch the project with a morning/afternoon tea function.
3. That resources be allocated to conduct the launch and workshops as outlined in the attached report.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

10.2 (DCS) Bullride Spectacular Sponsorship Request

Executive Summary

Australian Bullride Spectacular requests Council Sponsorship through cash or in-kind support to cover costs of staging Parkes Bullride Spectacular on 22nd October 2005. A list of potential in-kind support is outlined below.

Recommendation

1. That Council consider the list of in-kind support requested and provide any event staging in-kind support which can be made available with no direct cost to Council.
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05 - 536 Resolution

1. That Council defer its decision to the next meeting to be held 19 July 2005 to allow discussion of the request with the Parkes PA & H Association with a view to establishing the benefits to flow from the staging of such an event

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

11 DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT'S REPORT

11.1 Railway Hotel Request Variation of Trading Hours

Executive Summary

The licensee from the Railway Hotel in Parkes has requested Council's support for a 24 hour license at the Railway Hotel, Currajong Street, Parkes.

The applicant has been advised to submit a modification to Development Consent No 98123 for the proposed variation of trading hours. On 19 April 2005 a report was submitted to Council outlining the action proposed to be taken by the Planning and Environment Department. This report was supported by the Council.

Recommendation

1. That Development Application No DA98123 be modified to allow the hotel to operate 24 hours per day.

05 - 537 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

12 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT

12.1 (DO) Gravel Resheeting - Monumea Gap Road

Executive Summary

The recent rain, whilst light, has shown up particular problem areas on the Shire's gravel roads. One such problem is on Monumea Gap Road (SR 70) which became impassable.

Council has previously approved 6.5 kilometres of resheeting on Monumea Gap Road at an estimated cost of \$143,000. Since that time the deterioration has continued and the wet weather has resulted in a further 3.6 kilometres of the road between Main Road 350S and Ben Hall Road (SR71) failing.

The road is well trafficked and is a school bus route.

It is intended to commence the approved works on Monumea Gap Road within the next month given its current state. It is considered that the additional works should also be carried out at that time.

Recommendation

1. That \$85,500 be allocated from the 2005/06 Financial Assistance Grant - Roads Component for gravel resheeting of a further 3.6 kilometres on Monumea Gap Road.

05 - 538 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

12.2 (DO) CENTROC Disaster (Emergency) Risk Management Plan Project

Executive Summary

A meeting of the CENTROC Council's Local Emergency Management Officers (LEMO) was held with Echelon Risk Management representatives on 1 June 2005 in Bathurst to discuss the progression of the CENTROC Disaster (Emergency) Risk Management Plan project. The main outcome of the meeting was that four (4) Councils were selected to be involved with the first round of Emergency Risk Management Plan preparation, being Weddin, Orange, Blayney and Parkes Councils.

The Councils were selected to provide a range of sizes and to allow each of the Project Officers from Echelon to be involved from the outset. Training for the Local Emergency Management Committees, or Working Parties, involved initially will hopefully occur in July. A program for the remaining Councils will be set as the first round progresses, with the target completion remaining at December 2006.

The next meeting of LEMO's and Echelon is scheduled for 7 September 2005 at Oberon, to discuss progress of the project.

Recommendation

1. That the information on the progress on the CENTROC Disaster Risk Management Plan Project be noted.

05 - 539 Resolution

That the information be noted.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

12.3 (DO) NRMA Motoring & Services' Better Roads Panel - Central West and Western Plains

Executive Summary

Parkes Council were invited to participate in the NRMA Motoring & Services' Better Roads Panel for the Central West and Western Plains. There have been 10 regional Panels set up across New South Wales, the others being the Far North Coast, Hunter, Southern NSW and ACT, South West, Illawarra, South Coast, Mid North Coast, Central Coast and North West.

The NRMA is looking to explore the link between roads and regional economics, as well as important safety issues, in key regions of NSW, Central West & Western Plains being one of these regions, as part of an initiative called Better Roads for Regional NSW. This initiative will involve establishing a research program which identifies issues pertinent to each region which could include highways, road improvements, roads that service particular industries such as agriculture or tourism.

The Director of Operations is Council's representative, with the Economic Development Officer and Director of Infrastructure providing support.

It is considered that Parkes Council's representation is important given the developing importance of Parkes as a transport HUB.

Recommendation

1. That the information on the involvement of Council on the NRMA Motoring & Services' Better Roads Panel - Central West and Western Plains be noted.
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05 - 540 Resolution

That information be noted

Moved Councillor Patrick Byrne, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

13 DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE'S REPORT

13.1 (DI) Draft Asset Management Policy - Engineering Services

Executive Summary

Council owns, controls, manages and maintains an extensive range of physical assets. As custodians of those assets a formal policy is required which articulates precisely how those assets shall be managed, and sets out associated responsibilities. A draft Asset Management Policy for Engineering Services is attached for Council consideration.

Recommendation

That the draft Asset Management Policy - Engineering Services be adopted.

05 - 541 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Wayne Scott, seconded Councillor Patrick Byrne.

CARRIED

14 CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

14.1 Minutes of the Parkes Shire Council Road Naming Sub Committee held 21 June 2005

Executive Summary

The Parkes Shire Council Road Naming Sub Committee meeting was held on Tuesday 21 June 2005 at 1.05 pm. The Minutes are attached.

Recommendation

1. That the Minutes of the Parkes Shire Council Road Naming Sub Committee held 21 June 2005 be adopted, including the Committee Recommendations as follows:
2. That the following names be endorsed and submitted to the Government Gazette.

Attwells Lane	Shire Road 135 - renamed from Stones Road
Magill Lane	Road off Bogan Road (4 km from SH17)
3. That the following names be advertised for public comment.

Dernancourt Road	Road linking the Newell Highway and Dwyers Road Alectown
Northparkes Lane	Road to Northparkes Mine off Bogan Road
4. That Cabonne Shire Council be advised that Parkes Council prefers "Henry Parkes Way" if RTA raise no objections, but that in the interim Council will further investigate the history of the route to determine if a more applicable name exists.

05 - 542 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

15 QUESTIONS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY

15.1 Public being able to Speak at Council Meetings

Councillor K McGrath raised the matter of the public being able to speak at Council meetings.

The Director of Corporate Services advises that Council has a long standing policy relating to requests to address Council. The Mayor may approve individuals to address Council on matters relevant to the community or its policy making role. Council has always resisted requests from developers, people with objections to developments and other individuals with focused intentions to address open Council meetings. Some Councils allow a public question time during open meetings but generally questions must be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to allow staff time to research the matter. Universally, the questions are not permitted to relate to proposed developments. There is ample opportunity during the pre lodgement process and subsequent public submission process to allow developers and opponents to make their concerns known to Council

Recommendation

That the information supplied by the Director of Corporate Services be noted.

05 - 543 Resolution

1. That the information supplied by the Director of Corporate Services be noted.
2. That Council's policy in relation to addressing Council be advertised.
3. That Council reactivate the village visitation program by Senior Staff and interested Councillors.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

15.2 Presentation to Bob and Ann Steel

Councillor B Laing suggests that Council organise a presentation for Bob and Ann Steel upon their retirement from the hospitality industry and the running of Gracelands. Councillor Laing advises that the Steels have been very supportive of community groups.

Recommendation

That the Mayor arrange an appropriate function.

05 - 544 Resolution

1. That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

15.3 Television Reception in Tullamore

Councillor B Newton raised the matter of television reception in Tullamore being inconsistent. Some residents are reporting lines continually going across Prime and that the volume drops out with SBS.

The Director of Infrastructure advises that Council has not received any complaints concerning television reception at Tullamore and accordingly were unaware of the problem. If a list of sites with contact details could be provided the television facility installer can be engaged to specifically investigate if the problems are related to the facility or the specific sites.

Maintenance of the television retransmission facility is currently funded from the Town Improvement budget item.

Recommendation

That the Tullamore television facility installer be engaged to investigate television reception problems at Tullamore.

05 - 545 Resolution

1. That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Barbara Newton, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

15.4 Parking in Bushman Street, Parkes

Councillor G Pratt referred to the matter of no stopping signs in bushman Street between Bogan Street and McGees Lane (north side). He advised that the matter had previously considered by the Traffic Committee who recommended the retention of the current parking arrangements. Councillor Pratt advised that the arrangement was still unsatisfactory and asked what could be done to rectify the matter.

05 - 546 Resolution

1. That Council write to the Manager of KMart, requesting that KMart staff be discouraged from parking their vehicles in Bushman Street and requesting that staff be given permission to park in the underground car park of the complex.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

At this stage of the meeting and with the leave of Council the Mayor recognised Ron Dunford Chemist being awarded Soul Pattinson Pharmacy Team of the Year Award and also the contribution of Ron Dunford Chemist, Pfizer and the Parkes/East Timor Association in arranging the supply of basic medications to the village of Weberok.

At this stage the meeting adjourned at 2.57 pm for afternoon tea.

Councillor Yvonne Hutton left the meeting at 3.35 pm and did not return due to a prior commitment.

The meeting resumed at 3.35 pm.

The meeting of the Ordinary Council meeting was closed to the public at 3.35 pm.

The Mayor asked the Meeting whether it agreed that the items listed by the General Manager appeared to be items which should be discussed in closed session for the reasons given.

The General Manager advised that there were no written representations from the public on the proposed closure of the Council Meeting.

05 - 547 Resolution

That the meeting be closed for consideration of the listed items as they involve: information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business, personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) and commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

16 CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ITEMS

16.1 (GM) Indoor Bowling Centre

Prepared By: General Manager

Executive Summary

Council has been approached to provide a third party pledge of up to \$200,000.00 to assist a local developer to secure the funds necessary to establish and operate, initially on a leased basis, the Parkes Indoor Bowling Centre.

Recommendation

1. That Council not accede to the request to provide third party endorsement for the operation of the Parkes Indoor Bowling Centre and that Council make representations to Federal and State Departments for the possible provision of financial assistance.

05 - 548 Resolution

1. That Council not accede to the request to provide third party endorsement for the operation of the Parkes Indoor Bowling Centre and that Council make representations to Federal and State Departments for the possible provision of financial assistance.
2. That the General Manager be authorised to discuss the matter with the original proponent with a view to the original proponent providing possible assistance.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

16.2 (GM) Fisher Street Land

Prepared By: Director Planning & Environment

Executive Summary

Expressions of interest were invited for the development of Council land bounded by Park and Fisher Street, Parkes for a larger lot style residential subdivision.

Four submissions were received before the advertised deadline and Council must now consider the applications.

Recommendation

1. That a committee be appointed to consider the submissions.
2. That the submission from Koala Developments not be considered as it was received after the advertised deadline.

05 - 549 Resolution

1. That a Committee be appointed consisting of Councillors Wilson, Keith, and Magill, together with the appropriate Senior Staff, to consider the submissions.
2. That the submission from Koala Developments not be considered as it was received after the advertised deadline.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

16.3 (DCS) South Parkes Industrial Estate - Lot 18 Hanlon Street, Parkes

Prepared By: Director of Corporate Service

Executive Summary

Lot 18 Hanlon Street, Parkes was acquired for the construction for a storage facility during September 2004 under Council's normal lease/purchase agreement.

A letter has been received from the lessee advising of the difficulties he has experienced in commencing the development and requesting an extension of the lease agreement for a period of up to six months to enable the development of the site to be substantially commenced in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

Recommendation

1. That Council grant the request from the lessee for an extension of the lease/purchase agreement covering Lot 18 Hanlon Street, Parkes for a period of six months to enable the development of the storage facility to proceed in accordance with the conditions of the lease/purchase agreement.

05 - 550 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Bev Laing, seconded Councillor Patrick Byrne.

CARRIED

16.4 (DCS) Minutes of Consultative Committee Meeting - 23 June 2005

Prepared By: Director of Corporate Service

Executive Summary

The Parkes Shire Council Consultative Committee Meeting was held on 23 June 2005. The Minutes of the meeting are attached.

Recommendation

1. That the Minutes of the Parkes Shire Council Consultative Committee Meeting held on 23 June 2005 be adopted.

05 - 551 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

16.5 (DI) Australian Government Water Fund - Water Smart Australia Submission "Sustainable Parkes"

Prepared By: Director of Infrastructure

Executive Summary

The National Water Commission has called for submissions for project funding under the \$2 billion Australian Government Water Fund. A submission has been prepared and is attached seeking \$11.5 million to fund the Parkes Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan as a Demonstration Project for Holistic Water Cycle Planning and Infrastructure Delivery.

Recommendation

That the grant application to the Australian Government Water Fund - Water Smart Australia program be endorsed.

05 - 552 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Wayne Scott, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

17 QUESTIONS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY - CONFIDENTIAL

17.1 Public Awareness Campaign on Water Issues

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Code of Meeting Practice, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer

Councillor Magill has been contacted by the owner of a local business in relation to the effect that the water restrictions are having on his enterprise. The owner is more concerned about the misconception that Parkes does not have a secure water supply than the severity of the restrictions themselves and asks that Council undertake a public awareness campaign to better inform residents about the true facts relating to the security of supply.

05 - 553 Resolution

1. That the Director of Infrastructure write to the business owner advising of the information circulated to the public via the local press in the recent past.
2. That Council investigate publishing an appropriately worded media release in the local press reinforcing the future security of the Parkes water supply based on the information supplied in Council's submission to the National Water Commission concerning the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Patrick Byrne.

CARRIED

17.2 Land Acquisition by Auction

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Code of Meeting Practice, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would if disclosed:
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council

The Mayor advised the meeting of the availability of land that would be suitable to Council's future requirements.

05 - 554 Resolution

1. That the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to bid at auction for the property subject to the application of due diligence.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

17.3 Sir Henry Parkes Museum Project

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Code of Meeting Practice, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege

The Mayor advised the meeting on the progress of negotiations with the Parkes Historical Society regarding the occupancy of the Sir Henry Parkes Museum. The Mayor advised that he had instructed the General Manager to expedite the signing of an appropriate licence agreement with a set date for its acceptance.

05 - 555 Resolution

1. That the Mayor's actions be endorsed.

Moved Councillor Patrick Byrne, seconded Councillor Bev Laing.

CARRIED

17.4 Alkane - Peak Hill Gold Mine

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Code of Meeting Practice, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege

The Mayor advised the meeting of the current status of negotiations with Alkane in relation to the Peak Hill Open Cut Experience and the manner in which the original development conditions have not been complied with.

05 - 556 Resolution

1. That Senior Staff be instructed to expedite the conclusion of the matter of the management of the Peak Hill Open Cut Experience.
2. That, if necessary, appropriate legal action be instigated to ensure compliance with the original development application conditions of consent.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4.50 pm..