



PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY 4 JULY 2006

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 4 July 2006 at 1.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillor R I Wilson, (in the Chair)
Councillor Y Hutton
Councillor J H Magill
Councillor G Pratt
Councillor W Scott

Councillor K J Keith
Councillor K McGrath
Councillor B Newton

IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager - A McCormack
Director Corporate Service - B Matthews
Director Planning & Environment - S Campbell
Director Operations - S Barry
Director Infrastructure - K Boyd
Administration Manager - L Finn
Economic Development Manager – M Greenwood
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

06 - 435 Resolution

That Councillor Patrick Byrne be granted leave of absence (REASON: work commitments).

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

06 - 436 Resolution

That Councillor Bev Laing be granted leave of absence (REASON: absent from Parkes).

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

06 - 437 Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parkes Shire Council held on 20 June 2006, copies of which have been forwarded to Councillors, be confirmed.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Steven Campbell, Director Planning and Environment, declared an interest in Item 17.1 (REASON Executive member of organisation mentioned in report).

5 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil.

6 NOTICES OF MOTION/RESCISSION

Nil.

7 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nil.

8 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 (ICR) Parkes Symphony Orchestra - Periodic Report

Executive Summary

The Conductor of the Parkes Symphony Orchestra has submitted his latest periodic report for the information of Council. Mr Morehouse also proposes a meeting with Council representatives to discuss the future development of the Orchestra.

Recommendation

1. That the information be received and noted.
 2. That a meeting be organised with Mr Morehouse to discuss future development of the Parkes Symphony Orchestra.
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06 - 438 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

8.2 (ICR) Parkes Symphony Orchestra - Request to Purchase Musical Instrument

Executive Summary

The Conductor of the Parkes Symphony Orchestra requests Council consideration of the purchase of a grand piano for classical and jazz performances.

Recommendation

1. That Council advise the Parkes Symphony Orchestra that it is unable to accede to the request.

06 - 439 Resolution

1. That Council advise the Parkes Symphony Orchestra that it is unable to accede to the request, and will discuss the matter at the proposed meeting with Council representatives.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

9 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

9.1 (GM) Staff Changes - 1 April 2006 to 30 June 2006

Executive Summary

A periodic report on the movement in staff numbers as one of a number of measures of organisational health, stability and employee satisfaction.

Recommendation

1. That the information regarding staff changes for the period 1 April 2006 to 30 June 2006 be received and noted.
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06 - 440 06 441 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

9.2 (GM) Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of NSW Local Government

Executive Summary

The Percy Allen Report 'Are Councils Sustainable' was released in May 2006.

Recommendation

1. That this information be received and noted and periodic reports be made to Council.

06 - 442 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Yvonne Hutton, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

9.3 (GM) Workers Compensation

Executive Summary

Hours lost in workers compensation claims have markedly dropped in 2005/06.

Recommendation

1. That the information be noted and a message of appreciation be conveyed to all staff.

06 - 443 06 444 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Barbara Newton, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

10 DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES' REPORT

10.1 (DCS) Tullamore PA & H Association Inc - Water Account

Executive Summary

A letter has been received from the Tullamore PA & H Association requesting that Council give consideration to reducing the cost of their recent water account.

Recommendation

1. Submitted for the consideration of Council

06 - 445 Resolution

That Council provide a one off grant of \$500.00 to Tullamore PA & H Association.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken McGrath.

CARRIED

11 DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT'S REPORT

11.1 (DPE) DA06081: Upgrading of Lighting Facility at Cheney Park, Station Street, Parkes

Development Application Information

Application No: DA06081

Applicant: Mr Chris Martin

Property: Lot 1033 DP 750152, Lot 983 DP 750152, 'Cheney Park'
Station Street, Parkes

Proposal: Upgrading of Lighting Facility

Executive Summary

The Parkes Touch Association have lodged a Development Application for the erection of lighting facilities to illuminate four touch football fields in Cheney Park.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report.

It is further recommended that the traffic and parking problems raised in the community submissions be referred to the Parkes Local Traffic Committee for consideration.

06 - 446 Resolution

06 - 447

1. That an independent peer review of Council's assessment of DA06081 be carried out.
2. That the traffic and parking problems raised in the community submissions be referred to the Parkes Local Traffic Committee for consideration.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

11.2 (DPE) Impounding Report for April 2006

Executive Summary

A regular report is provided to Council on Ranger activities including impounding statistics.

Recommendation

1. That the information be noted.

06 - 448 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

11.3 (DPE) Parkes Shire Council Access Committee - Minutes 13 June 2006

Executive Summary

The inaugural meeting of the Parkes Shire Council Access Committee was held on Tuesday, 13 June 2006. The minutes of the meeting are attached.

Recommendation

1. That the Minutes of the Parkes Shire Council Access Committee held on 13 June 2006 be adopted.

06 - 449 Resolution

1. That the Minutes of the Parkes Shire Council Access Committee held on 13 June 2006 be adopted.
2. That the recent renovations carried out by the owners of GWS Personnel in Welcome Street, Parkes be listed for review by the Access Committee.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

11.4 (DPE) Parkes Shire Heritage Committee Meeting - 20 June 2006

Executive Summary

The Parkes Shire Local Heritage Committee held at meeting on 20 June 2006.

Recommendation

1. That the minutes of the Parkes Shire Heritage Committee be adopted.
2. That the listing of the Bumberry Dam as a heritage item under the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 1990 be considered as part of the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 1990 review currently being undertaken.

06 - 450 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Yvonne Hutton, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

12 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT

12.1 (DO) Supplementary Auslink Roads to Recovery Programme

Executive Summary

A letter has been received from the Hon Jim Lloyd MP, Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, offering a grant under the Supplementary AusLink Roads to Recovery Programme. Acknowledgement of the offer and conditions attached was returned to the Department of Transport and Regional Services as requested by the Minister.

The amount of the supplementary grant is \$781,907.75 and it is suggested that the full amount be allocated to the replacement of the timber bridge over Billabong Creek on Back Yamma Road.

Recommendation

1. That the grant of \$781,907.75 under the Supplementary AusLink Roads to Recovery Programme be allocated to the replacement of the timber bridge over Billabong Creek on Back Yamma Road.

06 - 451 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

12.2 (DO) Bushfire Management Committee Meeting - 23 May 2006

Executive Summary

The Mid Lachlan Valley Bushfire Management Committee met in Condobolin on Tuesday 23 May 2006. Cr Magill and the Facility and Emergency Management Officer attended. Matters discussed of particular note are detailed in the Report below.

Recommendation

1. That the information from the Mid Lachlan Valley Bushfire Management Committee be received and noted.

06 - 452 Resolution

1. That the information from the Mid Lachlan Valley Bushfire Management Committee be received and noted.
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2. That Council follow up the suggestion put to the RTA by the Committee to involve the Rural Fire Service in a clearing exercise of the Parkes to Alectown road corridor affected by the Alectown bushfires.
3. That the suggested clearing exercise be conducted after proper assessment by the RTA of the most appropriate manner in which to remove or dispose of the affected timber.
4. That Brigade Captains be requested to raise at their annual Brigade meetings the need for a solution to the current situation of very little or no fire breaks being implemented by property owners.
5. That the brigades within the Alectown area be requested to establish guidelines for firebreak implementation for use by property owners based on experience gained from the recent Alectown fires.

Moved Councillor George Pratt, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

12.3 (DO) 2004 Alectown Bushfire - Coronial Inquiry

Executive Summary

The Coronial Inquiry into the bushfire that started in the Alectown area on 30 November 2004 was held at Parkes Court House during the week of 26 to 30 June 2006. Magistrate Carl Milovanovich, NSW Deputy State Coroner, presided over the Inquiry.

Evidence was tendered by NSW Police, property owners, Country Energy, Rural Fire Service, and expert witnesses in the fields of Botany and Electrical Engineering.

On considering the evidence put forward the Coroner found "that the cause and origin of the fire was due to contact between the branches or arcing between the branches of a Kurrajong tree which was situated in close proximity to the 66,000 voltage power line which runs through the property known as Kurrajong Park."

A full copy of the Coroner's findings handed down are attached.

Recommendation

1. That the information on the Coronial Inquiry into the bushfire that started in the Alectown area on 30 November 2004 be noted.

06 - 453 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

13 DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE'S REPORT

13.1 (DI) Forbes to Tottenham Water Supply (B-Section) Management Meeting

Executive Summary

On 16 June 2006 a meeting was convened between Lachlan Shire Council and Parkes Shire Council in Trundle to discuss the operation and management of the Forbes to Tottenham (B-Section) water supply. The Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Senior Staff represented Parkes, and Lachlan was represented similarly. The meeting was productive and has set strategies for the beneficial management of the scheme.

Recommendation

1. That the information be received and noted.

06 - 454 Resolution

That the information be received and noted.

Moved Councillor Wayne Scott, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

13.2 (DI) Country Town Water Supply and Sewerage (CTWSS) Program Priority Work

Executive Summary

The Department of Energy, Utility and Sustainability has advised the results of their last project re-prioritisation committee findings. The Parkes Water Supply is now priority 2, Parkes Sewerage is priority 2, and the Trundle/Tullamore Sewerage Scheme is funded outside the program. Unfortunately they also indicate that despite the ranking the CTWSS Program is fully committed and no funds will be allocated unless additional funds are allocated.

Recommendation

1. That the information be received and noted.

06 - 455 Resolution

1. That the information be received and noted.
-

2. That Council make representations to the State Government in the strongest terms possible to have the State Government's previous commitments in relation to the Country Town Water Supply and Sewerage Program honoured.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

13.3 (DI) Trundle Raw Water Supply - Alternate Water Source

Executive Summary

Council's Water Supply Supervisor has negotiated with the owners of the property adjacent to the Trundle Town Water Supply Dam, to transfer half the volume of their farm dam to the Trundle Town Dam. This will significantly increase the longevity of the town supply.

Recommendation

1. That a letter of appreciation be sent to the Peffer Pastoral Company for their agreement to provide water for use by the Trundle community.

06 - 456 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

14 CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Nil

15 QUESTIONS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY

In accordance with Clause 17(4) of Council's Code of Meeting Practice the following business was allowed by the Chairperson.

15.1 (Q & M) Arts Performances

Councillor B Newton advises that Arts NSW are presenting performances by Sydney Theatre Company and Oz Opera at the Little Theatre and asks if costs involved could be discussed.

Recommendation

That Council discuss the costs and determine its involvement.

06 - 457 Resolution

1. That Council staff discuss the requirements with Councillor Newton and report to the next meeting of Council.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Yvonne Hutton.

CARRIED

15.2 (Q & M) Clarinda Fountain

Councillor Y Hutton asks if Council's storage facilities could be examined in an attempt to locate the top of the Clarinda Fountain.

The General Manager advises that after consulting the Storekeeper it was ascertained that this part of the fountain is not at Council's depot. Council's staff will cooperate in any attempt to find the missing piece.

Recommendation

That the information supplied by the General Manager be received and noted.

06 - 458 Resolution

That Council staff conduct a thorough investigation seeking the whereabouts of the top section of the Clarinda Fountain.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

At this stage of the meeting a Citizenship ceremony was conducted for Mrs Jean Houweling.

At this stage of the meeting and with the leave of Council the Mayor made a presentation to the De Oliveira family, visiting from East Timor.

At this stage the meeting adjourned at 3.08 pm for afternoon tea.

The meeting resumed at 3.30 pm.

15.3 (Q & M) 77mm Field Cannon

Councillor Y Hutton lists the 77mm field cannon allotted to trustees in Parkes in 1922 for discussion.

Recommendation

That the item be discussed.

06 - 459 Resolution

1. That a senior member of staff facilitate a meeting between the interested parties, namely Parkes RSL Sub Branch, Parkes Historical Society and the Restoration Committee representing 1/17 Battalion, in relation to the restoration of the WWI war trophy (77mm field cannon) which was previously located in Cooke Park.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

Urgent Business without Notice

06 - 460 Resolution

1. That the following business of which due notice has not being given, now be transacted in accordance with Clause 17(3) of Council's Code of Meeting Practice as the matter is considered to be of great urgency.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

15.4 (Q & M) Boundary Changes - Federal Electorates

Councillor J Magill enquired if Council is to make a submission in relation to the proposed boundary changes for Federal electorates in NSW?

Recommendation

1. That Council make a submission objecting to the proposed boundary changes on the grounds of the unmanageable size of the proposed electorates.
2. That Council request the retention of the previous percentage deviation from the state's quota when considering divisions.

06 - 461 Resolution

1. That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor John Magill, seconded Councillor Ken Keith.

CARRIED

16 CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ITEMS

The meeting of the Ordinary Council meeting was closed to the public at 3.45 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.

06 - 462 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 Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

16.1 (DCS) South Parkes Industrial Estate - Lot 72 Saleyards Road, Parkes

Prepared By: Director of Corporate Service

Executive Summary

A request has been received from the lessee of Lot 72 Saleyards Road, Parkes for an extension of the lease/purchase agreement to 30 September 2006.

Recommendation

1. That the request for an extension of the lease/purchase agreement covering Lot 72 Saleyards Road, Parkes be granted for a period of two months to 30 September 2006.
2. That Council agree to the preparation and exchange of contracts conditional upon the completion of the sale being subject to the development of the allotment being commenced to the satisfaction of Council.

06 - 463 Resolution

That the recommendations be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor John Magill.

CARRIED

16.2 (DCS) South Parkes Industrial Estate - Lot 15 Langlands Street, Parkes

Prepared By: Director of Corporate Service

Executive Summary

A request has been received for the acquisition for Lot 15 Langlands Street, Parkes within the South Parkes Industrial Estate.

Recommendation

1. That Lot 15 Langlands Street, Parkes be made available to the proponent under Council's normal lease/purchase agreement and that the necessary documentation be completed under the seal of Council.

06 - 464 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor George Pratt.

CARRIED

16.3 (DI) Purchase of Single Cab Tip Truck (WSV-3 2005/06)

Prepared By: Director of Infrastructure

Executive Summary

Tenders closed on 19 May 2006 for the replacement of Council's 2001 Isuzu NPR 400 truck (Plant Number 7778) currently utilised by Council's Water Department.

Recommendation

1. That Council accept the tender from Tracserv Pty Ltd for the supply of an Isuzu NPR 450 Medium with body incorporating a hydraulic tailgate release in accordance with Council's Specification WSV-3 2005/06 for a GST exempt price of \$56,517.27 and dispose of Council's trade truck at auction with a GST exempt reserve of \$25,500 leaving a cost to Council of \$31017.27

06 - 465 Resolution

That the recommendation be adopted.

Moved Councillor Ken McGrath, seconded Councillor Wayne Scott.

CARRIED

17 QUESTIONS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY - CONFIDENTIAL

Steven Campbell, Director Planning and Environment left the meeting temporarily at 3.50 pm.

17.1 (Q & M) Neighbourhood Centre

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) 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: -

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)

Councillor Y Hutton advises that the new manager at the Neighbourhood Centre will be employed for 30 hours per week. She suggests the workload is 38 and asks if Council would consider funding 4 hours per week.

The General Manager advises that the position is currently being advertised.

Recommendation

That Council discuss the position with the Neighbourhood Centre Management Committee.

06 - 466 Resolution

That Council investigate the request and report back to Council.

Moved Councillor Ken Keith, seconded Councillor Barbara Newton.

CARRIED

Steven Campbell, Director Planning and Environment rejoined the meeting at 4.00 pm.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4.44 pm.