

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 17 December 2024

Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Building, Bridge Road, Nowra

Time: 5.30pm

The following members were present:

Clr Patricia White – Chairperson
Clr Selena Clancy
Clr Denise Kemp
Clr Luciano Casmiri
Clr Karlee Dunn
Clr Jason Cox
Clr Peter Wilkins
Clr Bob Proudfoot
Clr Jemma Tribe
Clr Matthew Norris
Clr Gillian Boyd
Clr Natalee Johnston – Joined meeting 5:37pm (Remotely)
Clr Ben Krikstolaitis

The Chairperson read a statement advising those present that the proceedings of this meeting (including presentations, deputations and debate) will be webcast and may be recorded and broadcast under the provisions of the Code of Meeting Practice.

The meeting was opened by an Acknowledgement of Country by the Chairperson, followed with a Moment of Silence & Reflection and the playing of the Australian National Anthem.

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Nil

Confirmation of the Minutes

Note: Clr Johnston joined the meeting remotely, the time being 5:37pm.

RESOLVED (Clr Tribe / Clr Cox)

MIN24.683

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10 December 2024 be confirmed, with the following amendments:

- Clr Dunn be recorded as voting *against* item MM24.38 - Mayoral Minute - Fee Waiver for Nowra CBD Christmas Activation.
- Clr White be recorded as voting *against* item CL24.385 Notice of Motion - Call in DA MA24/1370 - Huskisson Hotel.

Minutes Confirmed Tuesday 21 January 2025 – Chairperson

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

Motion – Use of Electronic Voting Tools

RESOLVED (Clr Tribe)

MIN24.684

That Councillors use the electronic voting tool to ensure accurate minute taking.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

Declaration of Interests

Clr Tribe – CL24.401 - Notice of Motion - Local Charities Be Offered As Round Up To The Nearest Dollar – Less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration – Clr runs a small charity called the Nowra Community Food Store – will remain in the room and will take part in discussion and vote.

DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

CL24.403 - Application to Lodge a Special Rate Variation

Mr Ronald Cox (representing Burrill Lake Community Association) addressed the meeting to speak AGAINST the recommendation.

CL24.409 – Proposed Finalisation Strategic Growth Principles Part of New Land Use Planning Scheme Stage 1

Mr Rob Barrel (representing Callala Matters) addressed the meeting to speak FOR the recommendation.

NOTICES OF MOTION / QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

CL24.401 Notice of Motion - Local Charities Be Offered As Round Up To The Nearest Dollar

**HPERM Ref:
D24/526016**

Note: Clr Tribe - Less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration – Clr Tribe runs a small charity called Nowra Community Food Store – remained in the room and took part in discussion and vote.

Recommendation

That Council request that the Mayor write to all major national retailers operating in Shoalhaven, requesting their community responsibility to extend to smaller local charities.

RESOLVED (Clr Clancy / Clr Kemp)

MIN24.685

That Council request that the Mayor write to all major national retailers operating in Shoalhaven, requesting their community responsibility to extend to smaller local charities.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Clr Tribe and Clr Johnston

CARRIED

CL24.402 Notice of Motion - Suspension of Invitations to Comment on DA's during Summer Holiday Period

HPERM Ref: D24/534701

Recommendation

That Council, to facilitate the fullest possible participation of residents and community organisations in the consultation process:

1. Not seek public comment on documents on exhibition with a deadline that falls due during the period 15 December in any year to 15 January, inclusive, in the following year.
2. A variation of exhibition time is sought from external planning agencies if exhibition and submission between 15 December in any year to 15 January, inclusive, in the following year, is required.

RESOLVED (Clr Boyd / Clr Norris)

MIN24.686

That Council, to facilitate the fullest possible participation of residents and community organisations in the consultation process, resolve that for any documents on exhibition between the period of 15 December and 15 January, the public exhibition and submission period be extended to 31 January at a minimum.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

Procedural Motion - Introduction of Item as a Matter of Urgency and Bring Items Forward

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Wilkins)

MIN24.687

That

1. The addendum report, CL24.410 Structuring Councils Financial Future – A Sustainable Financial Futures Plan, be introduced as a matter of urgency.
2. The following items be brought forward for consideration, and be dealt with in this order following the call over of business paper:
 - a. CL24.410 - Structuring Councils Financial Future – A Sustainable Financial Futures Plan
 - b. CL24.404 - Adoption of 2022-2026 Revised Resourcing Strategy
 - c. CL24.403 - Application to Lodge a Special Rate Variation

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

CALL OVER OF THE BUSINESS PAPER

Call Over of Business Paper

RESOLVED (Clr Cox / Clr Norris)

MIN24.688

That the following item from the business paper be resolved without debate:

- CL24.405 - Ongoing Register of Pecuniary Interest Returns - November 2024

Note – the item will be marked with an asterisk (*) in these Minutes.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

REPORTS

CL24.410 Structuring Councils Financial Future – A Sustainable Financial Futures Plan

HPERM Ref:
D24/534179

Recommendation

That Council receive and note this report and the Sustainable Financial Futures Plan, which is the organisation's strategy to make significant improvements towards the \$25 - \$35 million per annum structural deficit that was identified in the November 2023 Financial Sustainability Review (CL23.420).

RESOLVED (Clr Proudfoot / Clr Krikstolaitis)

MIN24.689

That Council receive and note this report and the Sustainable Financial Futures Plan, which is the organisation's strategy to make significant improvements towards the \$25 - \$35 million per annum structural deficit that was identified in the November 2023 Financial Sustainability Review (CL23.420).

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

CL24.404 Adoption of 2022-2026 Revised Resourcing Strategy

HPERM Ref:
D24/529692

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the outcomes of the public exhibition of the updated Draft Resourcing Strategy (2024/25 version).
2. Adopt the Resourcing Strategy 2022-2026 (2024/25 version) which includes the following documents:
 - a. Workforce Management Planning Strategy
 - b. Asset Management Strategy
 - c. Information Communication Technology Strategy
 - d. Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2034

3. Notes that further refinement of Council's Resourcing Strategy will occur during the development of the draft Delivery Program Operational Plan and Budget 2025/26, due to be placed on public exhibition in April/May 2025.
4. Notify the community of the outcome of the exhibition process.

RESOLVED (Clr Proudfoot / Clr Clancy)

MIN24.690

That Council:

1. Notes the outcomes of the public exhibition of the updated Draft Resourcing Strategy (2024/25 version).
2. Adopt the Resourcing Strategy 2022-2026 (2024/25 version) which includes the following documents:
 - a. Workforce Management Planning Strategy
 - b. Asset Management Strategy
 - c. Information Communication Technology Strategy
 - d. Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2034
3. Notes that further refinement of Council's Resourcing Strategy will occur during the development of the draft Delivery Program Operational Plan and Budget 2025/26, due to be placed on public exhibition in April/May 2025.
4. Notify the community of the outcome of the exhibition process.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

CL24.403 Application to Lodge a Special Rate Variation

HPERM Ref:
D24/529678

Note: A deputation was received on this item.

Recommendation

That Council

1. Receive and note this report and the actions taken to effect the Council Resolution of 5 November 2024 (MIN24.591) to undertake community consultation with respect to 3 options for a possible Special Rate Variation.
2. Lodge an application with the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a Special Variation as outlined in Option 3 in the Long Term Financial Plan, namely a one-off permanent 12%, including rate peg, increase in total rates.

RESOLVED (Clr Proudfoot / Clr Casmiri)

MIN24.691

That Council

1. Receive and note this report and the actions taken to effect the Council Resolution of 5 November 2024 (MIN24.591) to undertake community consultation with respect to 3 options for a possible Special Rate Variation.
2. Lodge an application with the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a Special Variation as outlined in Option 3 in the Long Term Financial Plan, namely a one-off permanent 12%, including rate peg, increase in total rates.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr

Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp and Clr Cox

CARRIED

CL24.404 Adoption of 2022-2026 Revised Resourcing Strategy

**HPERM REF:
D24/529692**

Item dealt with earlier in the meeting see MIN24.690

Items marked with an * were resolved without debate.

CL24.405 Ongoing Register of Pecuniary Interest Returns - November 2024

**HPERM Ref:
D24/495873**

RESOLVED* (Clr Cox / Clr Norris)

MIN24.692

That the report of the Chief Executive Officer regarding the Ongoing Register of Pecuniary Interest Returns lodged for the period of 1 November to 30 November 2024 be received for information.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

CL24.406 Investment Report - November 2024

**HPERM Ref:
D24/512094**

Recommendation

That Council receive the Record of Investments for the period to 30 November 2024.

RESOLVED (Clr Proudfoot / Clr White)

MIN24.693

That Council receive the Record of Investments for the period to 30 November 2024.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

CL24.407 Report Back - Financial Review Panel - Establishment of Committee

**HPERM Ref:
D24/535543**

Recommendation

That Council note and receive for information:

1. The formation of the Financial Review Panel.
2. The adopted Terms of Reference (Attachment 1).
3. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Financial Review Panel held on 3 December 2024.

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Dunn)

MIN24.694

That Council note and receive for information:

1. The formation of the Financial Review Panel.

2. The adopted Terms of Reference (Attachment 1).
3. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Financial Review Panel held on 3 December 2024.
4. That the following Members have been appointed,
 - The Mayor
 - The Deputy Mayor
 - Clr Jason Cox
 - Clr Jemma Tribe
 - Clr Karlee Dunn
 - Mr Stuart Coughlan
 - Mr Ian Foreman
 - Mr Mark Crowther
 - Mr Keith Brodie
 - Mr Peter Dun
 - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)
 - Director City Performance (non-voting)
 - Chief Financial Officer (non-voting)

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

CL24.408 Community-Led Projects - Policy and Guidelines

HPERM Ref:
D24/479492

Recommendation

That Council

1. Adopt the **Community-Led Projects Policy** as presented in **Attachment 1** of the *Community-Led Projects – Policy and Guidelines* report;
2. Adopt the **Guidelines for Community-Led Projects** as presented in **Attachment 2** of the *Community-Led Projects – Policy and Guidelines* report;
3. Note the additional work to be undertaken by Council officers in regard to community-led projects.

RESOLVED (Clr Proudfoot / Clr Boyd)

MIN24.695

That Council

1. Adopt the **Community-Led Projects Policy** as presented in **Attachment 1** of the *Community-Led Projects – Policy and Guidelines* report;
2. Adopt the **Guidelines for Community-Led Projects** as presented in **Attachment 2** of the *Community-Led Projects – Policy and Guidelines* report;
3. Note the additional work to be undertaken by Council officers in regard to community-led projects.

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Nil

CARRIED

**CL24.409 Proposed Finalisation - Strategic Growth Principles -
Part of New Land Use Planning Scheme (Stage 1)**

**HPERM Ref:
D24/513439**

Note: A deputation was received on this item.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopt the exhibited draft Strategic Growth Principles (**Attachment 1**) with the amendments recommended in **Attachment 2 Recommended amendments to exhibited Strategic Growth Principles**.
2. Proceed to publish the Strategic Growth Principles in Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement (known as *Shoalhaven 2040*).

RESOLVED (Clr Tribe / Clr Boyd)

MIN24.696

That Council:

1. Adopt the exhibited draft Strategic Growth Principles (**Attachment 1**) with the amendments recommended in **Attachment 2 Recommended amendments to exhibited Strategic Growth Principles**, with these further amendments:
 - a. Principle 9 be amended to the original wording, which was, "Council will consider alternative ways to increase dwelling supply in constrained locations to meet the communities housing need instead of further urban expansion".
 - b. Principle 8 be amended to read as follows, "Development will maximise opportunities to conserve and protect biodiversity and indigenous values and habitats in accordance with contemporary environmental legislation".
2. Proceed to publish the Strategic Growth Principles in Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement (known as *Shoalhaven 2040*).

FOR: Clr White, Clr Clancy, Clr Dunn, Clr Cox, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Johnston and Clr Krikstolaitis

AGAINST: Clr Kemp and Clr Casmiri

CARRIED

ADDENDUM REPORTS

**CL24.410 Structuring Councils Financial Future – A Sustainable
Financial Futures Plan**

**HPERM REF:
D24/534179**

Item dealt with earlier in the meeting see MIN24.689

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 7:58pm.

Clr White
CHAIRPERSON