



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GRIFFITH ON 8 APRIL 2014 COMMENCING AT 7.02 PM

PRESENT

The Mayor, John Dal Broi in the Chair; Councillors, Alison Balind, Pat Cox, Simon Croce, Doug Curran, Bill Lancaster, Anne Napoli, Mike Neville, Paul Rossetto, Christine Stead, and Leon Thorpe.

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet; Director Infrastructure and Operations, Dallas Bibby; Director Sustainable Development, Neil Southorn; Director Utilities, David Tull; Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services, Max Turner; Manager Executive Services, Shireen Donaldson and Minute Secretary, Jennifer O'Donnell-Priest.

MEDIA

Jack Morphet, The Area News

The Meeting opened with Councillor Curran reading the Council prayer and the Acknowledgment of Country.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

APOLOGIES

0106

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Stead and Curran that an apology be received from Councillor Dino Zappacosta and a leave of absence granted.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD 25 MARCH 2014

0107

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Thorpe and Neville that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers, Griffith on 25 March 2014, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD 25 MARCH 2014

Business Arising - CL02 Financial Assistance Request from the Gurdwara Singh Sabha Society Griffith Re Sikh Temple

Councillor Thorpe requested an update on whether Council's resolution had been advertised and if so, were there any responses. Mr Turner advised that the resolution had been advertised for 2 weeks with no submissions being received as yet. The advertisement period continues for 28 days followed by a second report to Council.

CL01 - Modification of DA190/2011(1) - Construction of a Garage

Councillor Balind requested correction to the voting record to indicate that she was not 'Absent from the meeting' but on Approved Leave.

CL02 - DA17/2014 - Use of a Premises for Medical Consulting Rooms

Councillor Balind requested correction to the voting record to indicate that she was not 'Absent from the meeting' but on Approved Leave.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The following Councillors declared non-pecuniary interests in the following clauses:

Councillor Alison Balind - CL02 - Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre Report
Reason - *Councillor Balind is a member of the Griffith Swimming Club which utilises the facility.*

Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

Councillor Alison Balind - CL03 - Review of Services - Griffith City Council
Reason - *Councillor Balind's husband is currently employed by Griffith City Council in the Road Safety Area.*

Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

Councillor Alison Balind - Minutes of the Community Private Hospital
Reason - *Councillor Balind is employed by an organisation which will be a future tenant of the facility and student accommodation.*

Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

Councillor Pat Cox - CL02 - Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre Report
Reason - *Councillor Cox has discussed the future of GRALC with a number of residents.*

Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

Councillor Anne Napoli - CL03 - Review of Services - Griffith City Council
Reason - *Councillor Napoli has two family members employed at Griffith City Council.*
Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

Councillor Anne Napoli - CL07 of Previous Council Meeting (23 March 2014) - Re the tabled petition regarding the Griffith Pound.

Reason - *After receiving a copy of the petition, Councillor Napoli had a family member sign the petition.*

Make a declaration, Clause not a part of tonight's meeting.

Councillor Paul Rossetto - CL01 - Renewal of Licence Agreement of Part Drainage Reserve 159011 to St Vincent De Paul Society NSW
Reason - Councillor Rossetto is a member of the St Vincent De Paul Society
Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

Councillor Christine Stead - CL02 - Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre Report
Reason - Councillor Stead has received an email from the user group.
Make a declaration, stay in the Chamber and participate in the debate and vote.

PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The following Councillor/Council Officer declared a pecuniary interest in the following clauses:

Councillor Anne Napoli - CL02 - Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre Report
Reason - Councillor Napoli has a family member employed at the mentioned facility.
Make a declaration, leave the Chamber and do not return until matter is resolved.

Councillor Anne Napoli - Notice of Motion - Griffith Pound - EOI for Animal Holding Facility.
Reason - Councillor Napoli has a family member employed in the Compliance Department.
Make a declaration, leave the Chamber and do not return until matter is resolved.

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet - CL02 - Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre Report
Reason - Mr Stonestreet's wife is employed on a casual basis at GRALC.
Make a declaration, leave the Chamber and do not return until matter is resolved.

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM01 COAL SEAM GAS EXPLORATION AND MINING - NOTICE OF MOTION

0108

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Napoli and Cox that:

(a) Griffith City Council submit a motion to the Australian National General Assembly of Local Government (June 2014) to ask the Federal Government to intervene and determine that exploration and mining of Coal Seam Gas in agriculturally productive land not be permitted, and

(b) The Australian National General Assembly of Local Government express grave concern and object to any exploration and mining of any kind in agriculturally productive land. This is to ensure that agriculturally productive land continues to produce clean, safe food for all Australians and the world, and

(c) Griffith City Council ask neighbouring councils, should they be interested to be included in supporting the motion,

(d) RAMROC be requested to make submission to the NSW Government as per (b) above, on behalf of member councils.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 RENEWAL OF LICENCE AGREEMENT OF PART DRAINAGE RESERVE 159011 TO ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NSW (CPO)

The Mayor advised that additional information had been received today regarding the renewal of the licence agreement which required further investigation.

Councillor Lancaster **MOVED** that the report **LAY ON THE TABLE**.

The motion was **PUT** and **CARRIED**.

0109

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Lancaster that the report lay on the table.

CL02 GRIFFITH REGIONAL AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE REPORT (DBCF)

Councillor Anne Napoli and Mr Brett Stonestreet having declared pecuniary interests, vacated the chamber, the time being 7.12 pm.

0110

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Stead and Curran that standing orders be suspended to allow Mrs Sue Brighenti to address Council, the time being 7.12 pm.

Councillors Neville and Thorpe **MOVED** the following **MOTION** that:

- (a) Council adopt in principle the Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre options report as prepared by Tredwell Management Services and RPM & Associates.
- (b) Council undertake a comprehensive community consultation process based on the Tredwell and RPM options report to;
 - (i) obtain community feedback on the preferred management structure for GRALC in the future, and
 - (ii) obtain community feedback on the type, scope, timing and cost of any future development of the facility.
- (c) Council adopt the draft GRALC Community Engagement Plan (as attached) and commences the consultation process.
- (d) A further report be prepared for Council, no later than 31 July 2014 on the preferred course of action after taking into account the submissions and feedback from the community.

Councillor Rossetto **MOVED** an **AMENDMENT** to the **MOTION** that:

- (a) Council adopt in principle the Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre options report as prepared by Tredwell Management Services and RPM & Associates.

(b) Council undertake a comprehensive community consultation process based on the Tredwell and RPM options report to;

(i) obtain community feedback on the preferred management structure for GRALC in the future, and

(ii) obtain community feedback on the type, scope, timing and cost of any future development of the facility.

(c) Council adopt the draft GRALC Community Engagement Plan (as attached) and commence the consultation process.

(d) A further report be prepared for Council, no later than 31 July 2014 on the various options after taking into account the submissions and feedback from the community and the Consultant's report.

The **AMENDMENT** was **ACCEPTED** and become the **MOTION**.

0111

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Neville and Thorpe that:

(a) Council adopt in principle the Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre options report as prepared by Tredwell Management Services and RPM & Associates.

(b) Council undertake a comprehensive community consultation process based on the Tredwell and RPM options report to;

(i) obtain community feedback on the preferred management structure for GRALC in the future, and

(ii) obtain community feedback on the type, scope, timing and cost of any future development of the facility.

(c) Council adopt the draft GRALC Community Engagement Plan (as attached) and commences the consultation process.

(d) A further report be prepared for Council, no later than 31 July 2014 on the various options after taking into account the submissions and feedback from the community and the Consultant's report.

Councillor Balind queried why the recommendation was to hold the public forum at the Griffith City Library and not at GRALC. Mr Turner advised that staff would have no issue changing the venue to GRALC.

Councillor Napoli and Mr Stonestreet returned to the Chamber, the time being 7.33 pm

CL03 REVIEW OF SERVICES - GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
(GM)

Councillors Rossetto and Lancaster **MOVED** the following **MOTION** that:

(a) Council endorse in principle the 'Review of Council Readiness for Best Value Reviews' Report inclusive of recommendations contained therein, subject to any amendments as determined by Council.

- (b) The General Manager prepare a report for Council's consideration in terms of an implementation plan for the various recommendations referred to in (a) above.
- (c) (i) Council undertake the Customer Focus Review across the entire organisation commencing in the current financial year (2013/14) and a variation be made to the budget through the March 2014 quarterly review process to undertake this project.

(ii) That Blackadder Associates be engaged to assist with this review using Best Value Review Methodology.
- (d) Council undertake the Roads Design, Construction, Maintenance and Associated Services Best Value Review during the 2014/15 financial year and that provision be made in Council's draft 2014/15 budget (Operational Plan) for this purpose.
- (e) As a matter of Policy, Council undertake the Customer Focus Review and Roads - Design, Construction, Maintenance and Associated Services Review with the objective of achieving best practice. These two reviews will not result in outsourcing of these services.

Councillor Rossetto **MOVED** an **AMENDMENT** to the **MOTION** that:

- (a) Council endorse in principle the 'Review of Council Readiness for Best Value Reviews' Report inclusive of recommendations contained therein, subject to any amendments as determined by Council.
- (b) The General Manager prepare a report for Council's consideration in terms of an implementation plan for the various recommendations referred to in (a) above.
- (c) (i) Council undertake the Customer Focus Review across the entire organisation commencing in the current financial year (2013/14) and a variation be made to the budget through the March 2014 quarterly review process to undertake this project.

(ii) That Blackadder Associates be engaged to assist with this review using Best Value Review Methodology.
- (d) Council undertake the Roads Design, Construction, Maintenance and Associated Services Best Value Review during the 2014/15 financial year and that provision be made in Council's draft 2014/15 budget (Operational Plan) for this purpose.
- (e) As a matter of Policy, Council undertake the Customer Focus Review and Roads - Design, Construction, Maintenance and Associated Services Review with the objective of achieving best practice. These two reviews will not result in outsourcing of these services provided performance is better or comparable to DLG benchmarks.

The **MOTION** was **PUT** and **WON**.

0112

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Rossetto and Stead that:

- (a) Council endorse in principle the 'Review of Council Readiness for Best Value Reviews' Report inclusive of recommendations contained therein, subject to any amendments as determined by Council.

- (b) The General Manager prepare a report for Council's consideration in terms of an implementation plan for the various recommendations referred to in (a) above.
- (c) (i) Council undertake the Customer Focus Review across the entire organisation commencing in the current financial year (2013/14) and a variation be made to the budget through the March 2014 quarterly review process to undertake this project.
- (ii) That Blackadder Associates be engaged to assist with this review using Best Value Review Methodology.
- (d) Council undertake the Roads Design, Construction, Maintenance and Associated Services Best Value Review during the 2014/15 financial year and that provision be made in Council's draft 2014/15 budget (Operational Plan) for this purpose.
- (e) As a matter of Policy, Council undertake the Customer Focus Review and Roads - Design, Construction, Maintenance and Associated Services Review with the objective of achieving best practice. These two reviews will not result in outsourcing of these services provided performance is better or comparable to DLG benchmarks.

MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

MINUTES OF THE GRIFFITH COMMUNITY PRIVATE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2014

0113

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Neville and Balind that the minutes of the Griffith Community Private Hospital Management Committee meeting held on 25 February 2014, having first been circulated amongst members be adopted.

MINUTES OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2014

0114

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Croce and Rossetto that the minutes of the Floodplain Management Committee meeting held on 6 March 2014, having first been circulated amongst members be adopted.

MINUTES OF THE TOURISM AND EVENTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2014

0115

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Stead and Thorpe that the minutes of the Tourism and Events Management Committee meeting held on 13 March 2014, having first been circulated amongst members be adopted with the exclusion of the recommendations made in CL09.

Councillor Balind noted the comments added to the Minutes of the Tourism and Events Management Committee from the Senior Management Team re CL09 - 2016 Centenary Celebrations and requested further discussion regarding various items. The matter was determined to be dealt with in Closed Council.

**MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 MARCH 2014**

0116

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Rossetto and Thorpe that the minutes of the Business Development and Major Projects Management Committee meeting held on 17 March 2014, having first been circulated amongst members be adopted.

Councillor Cox requested Council's intended direction on the approved recommendation for CL05 - "...the Committee note the report regarding cultural exchanges with Sister Cities and refer this to Council for determination."

Mr Stonestreet foreshadowed that this item would be dealt with in Councillor Question Time, as it has been put forward for discussion.

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE

NOTICE OF MOTION - GRIFFITH POUND - EOI FOR ANIMAL HOLDING FACILITY

Councillor Napoli vacated the Chamber, the time being 8.05 pm

0117

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Lancaster and Curran that Griffith City Council seek expressions of interest (EOI) submissions from interested and experienced parties for the provisions of an animal holding facility at Griffith.

The EOI is an opportunity for parties who are able to provide facilities, or wish to lease facilities provided by Council, for keeping of dogs and cats that are surrendered to or impounded by Council.

The services required may include, but is not limited to one or more of the following :

1. Accept impounded companion animals from Council Officers and members of the public.
2. Assist Council Officers with microchipping procedures as required.
3. Be responsible for the safe keeping, security, feeding, watering and shelter of impounded animals.
4. Release animals within agreed hours.
5. Assist Council Officers with euthanizing procedures as required.

The expression of interest process could proceed in the short term with a view to any expressions of interests being considered during the design phase of Council's impounding facility for companion animals. In accordance with resolution 0092, Council staff will conduct the proposed expression of interest process via the General Facilities Management Committee.

Councillor Napoli returned to the Chamber, the time being 8.05 pm.

QUESTION TIME

(Council note: questions as recorded in the Minutes are exact copies of the material provided by the member of public asking the question).

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Lance Perry asked the following question:

"Can Council do something about reducing the height of the plants at the roundabout right hand side heading north KOOKORA ST and KOORINGAL AVE photo supplied above?"

Mr Perry addressed the Council, the time being 8.06 pm.

Mr Bibby advised that a letter had been sent out this week to the Community and Development Council of Griffith Inc. advising them that there would be removal of some plants at some roundabouts and this roundabout would be included.

COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Leon Thorpe asked the following question:

"On the understanding that it is highly desirable to maintain traditional and cultural ties between Griffith and Montana Del Grappa and on the understanding that cultural exchange duties in this area have been passed from one cluster committee to another, can we now advertise in the community for people interested in relevant travelling to Montana Del Grappa and accordingly form a council action committee that shall include some interested community members with the task of assessing the situation and reporting back to Council with a recommendation?"

Mr Stonestreet spoke to the matter and agreed on the removal of the responsibility from the Major Projects and Business Development Management Committee as the process has now become a cultural exchange only. He advised that a sunset working committee to oversee sister city relationships would be beneficial.

0118

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Thorpe and Rossetto that Council advertise for interested people from the community to establish an action group to investigate costing of and assessment of interest in self funded travel to the Communita del Grappa under guidelines prescribed by Council.

Councillor Paul Rossetto asked the following question:

"If a motion at a Committee meeting has not been acted upon what recourse is there? i.e. reintroduce the motion? or Act upon it."

Mr Stonestreet sought clarification on the question and requested Councillor Rossetto provide further details after the meeting for investigation.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Councillors Napoli and Curran **MOVED** the following **MOTION**:

The Outstanding Action Report be noted with the following amendments.

Items to be removed due to finalisation:

11 March 2014

Minute No: 0071: Council Committee Delegations and Designated Persons

Minute No: 0073: NOM - Council Committee Delegations and Designated Persons

Question Time: Community and Development Council of Griffith Inc. - Traffic Matters

Question Time: Trees on Nature Strip adjacent to Hillston Street

12 November 2014

Minutes - Transport Management Committee - EOI Coffee Shop Airport Terminal

23 July 2013

Notice of Motion - Cooper Road

Councillor Rossetto **MOVED** an **AMENDMENT** to the **MOTION** that:

23 July 2013 - Notice of Motion - Cooper Road remain on the Outstanding Action List until works completed.

The **AMENDMENT** was **ACCEPTED** and become the **MOTION**.

0119

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Napoli and Curran that:

The Outstanding Action Report be noted with the following amendments.

Items to be removed due to finalisation:

11 March 2014

Minute No: 0071: Council Committee Delegations and Designated Persons

Minute No: 0073: NOM - Council Committee Delegations and Designated Persons

Question Time: Community and Development Council of Griffith Inc. - Traffic Matters

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12 November 2014

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CLOSED COUNCIL

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Set out below is Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to matters which can be dealt with in the closed part of a meeting.

The matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege
- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.

**CLOSED COUNCIL - GENERAL BUSINESS - CL09 TOURISM AND EVENTS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 2016 CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS
Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)
10A(2)(a)**

The Committee resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerns personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)(Section 10A(2)(a)).

0120

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Thorpe and Balind that:

- (a) Council resolve into closed council to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting.
- (b) That pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provision of section 10A(2) as outlined above.
- (c) That the correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council closed its meeting at 8.23 pm. The public and media left the chamber.

0121

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Stead and Balind that open Council be resumed. Open Council resumed at 8.44 pm.

Upon resuming open Council the Mayor reported that the Closed Council had made the following resolutions.

MATTERS DEALT WITH IN CLOSED COUNCIL

**CLOSED COUNCIL - GENERAL BUSINESS - CL09 TOURISM AND EVENTS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 2016 CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS**

0122

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Balind and Stead that the Griffith City Council's General Manager and Tourism and Economic Development Manager prepare a budget proposal for the 2016 Centenary Celebrations and bring a report back to Council.

0123

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Neville and Napoli that Council make application to the Minister of Fair Trading for approval of a local event day to be celebrated on 4 August 2016.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8.45 pm.

Confirmed:
CHAIRPERSON

□