

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL, 144  
OTHO STREET, INVERELL ON WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 2016,  
COMMENCING AT 11.18AM.

PRESENT: Cr J A Watts (Chairperson), Crs D F Baker, P J Girle, P J Harmon, A  
A Michael and B C Johnston.

Also in attendance: Paul Henry (General Manager), Ken Beddie  
(Director Corporate and Economic Services), Brett McInnes (Director  
Civil and Environmental Services) and Stephen Golding (Executive  
Manager Corporate and Community Services).

SECTION A

APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Crs Jones and Castledine for personal reasons.

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Michael) that the apologies from Crs Jones and Castledine for  
personal reasons be noted.*

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Michael) that the Minutes of the Economic and Community  
Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 11 November, 2015 as circulated to  
members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS/PECUNIARY AND NON-  
PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

SECTION B  
ADVOCACY REPORTS

Cr Harmon Tingha Chinese New Year

Cr Harmon advised that he has been invited to celebrate the Chinese  
New Year celebrations with the Tingha community. Two (2) officials  
from the Chinese Consulate will be in attendance.

Cr Watts Delungra Post Office

Cr Watts advised that the Delungra Post Office is open five (5) days  
a week. The 10 community volunteers that assist now keep the Post  
Office sustainable. Cr Watts requested that Council send an  
appreciation letter to the Delungra District Development Council.

SECTION D  
DESTINATION REPORTS

1. FIT FOR THE FUTURE (FFF) – UPDATE S13.1.2

GM-A *RESOLVED (Baker/Girle) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) *the report be received and noted,*
- ii) *a draft submission be prepared and submitted to Council for endorsement which includes the Tingha area; and*
- iii) *Council support the retention of a one (1) year term for Mayors to provide a mechanism for dealing with non-performing Mayors.*

At this juncture, the time being 11.34am, Cr Harmon and the General Manager left the meeting.

2. MCLEAN CARE - MID YEAR ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK (MYEFO)  
S3.16.1

GM-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) *Council liaise with McLean Care on the details of the impacts of funding changes; and*
- ii) *the Mayor seek an appointment with Mr Barnaby Joyce, Member for New England, to highlight the impacts of changes in Aged Care funding.*

3. AMENDMENT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (LG ACT) S4.10.5

GM-A *RESOLVED (Baker/Michael) that the Committee recommend to Council that Council amend the "Inverell Shire Council – Code of Conduct" by inserting the following wording for clause 4.29;*

*"A Councillor, who would otherwise be precluded from participating in the consideration of a matter under this Part because they have a non-pecuniary conflict or interest in the matter, is permitted to participate in consideration of the matter, if:*

- a) *the matter is a proposal relating to:*
  - i. *the making of a principal environmental planning instrument applying to the whole or a significant part of the council's area, or*
  - ii. *the amendment, alteration or repeal of an environmental planning instrument where the amendment, alteration or repeal applies to the whole or a significant part of the council's area, and*
- b) *the non-pecuniary conflict of interests arises only because of an interest that a person has in that person's principal place of residence, and*
- c) *the councillor declares the interest they have in the matter that would otherwise have precluded their participation in consideration of the matter under this part."*

4. LAND SALES – VARIOUS (LISTING) S5.2.0/09 & S5.2.48

*RESOLVED (Michael/Girle) that the matter be referred to Closed Committee for consideration as:*

- i) *the matters and information are 'commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.' (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act, 1993);*
- ii) *on balance the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of the information outweighs the public interest in openness and transparency in Council decision-making by discussing the matter in open meeting; and*

- iii) *all reports and correspondence 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.*

SECTION E  
INFORMATION REPORTS

1. CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS S12.4.1/09
2. LIBRARY CONFERENCE AND ASSOCIATION AGM S3.6.4
3. LIBRARY STATISTICAL OVERVIEW 2014/15 S3.6.1/09

*RESOLVED (Baker/Girle) that the items contained in the Information Reports to the Economic & Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 10 February, 2016, be received and noted.*

At this juncture, the time being 11.50am, Cr Harmon and the General Manager returned to the meeting.

SECTION F  
QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

GM-A Cr Watts Country Women's Association (CWA) S12.22.1/09

Cr Watts advised of the upcoming Raise Awareness about Domestic Violence Forum being held in Inverell by the local CWA. The Inverell chapter is hosting a free professional development training forum and the Night To Raise Awareness about Domestic Violence dinner. Pam McLeay, Secretary of the CWA, has approached Council for financial assistance to run the event. The event's Celebrity Guest speaker will be Robyn Moore, who is an Australian actress, motivational speaker and life changing coach. Council has been asked to consider funding the Guest Speaker's appearance fee, a cost of \$4,000 plus GST. It is expected that 300 people will be attending the Night to Raise Awareness about Domestic Violence dinner.

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Baker) that the Committee recommend to Council that Council provide financial assistance of \$4K plus GST for the purpose of providing a guest speaker.*

General Manager Town Clock

The General Manager noted the town clock has ceased chiming. Council has made representations to the Attorney General's Department in this matter and will continue to advocate for its repair.

RC-A Street Lighting S27.8.1

LED street lighting was noted. The Committee discussed numerous issues/benefits including:

- Cost
- Maintenance
- Brightness
- Light pollution

There has been one (1) resident complaint regarding the light impeding on his premises.

The Committee was informed of Essential Energy's current position regarding the erection of shades; Essential Energy do not erect shades on street lighting.

Council to seek legal advice from Statewide Mutual as to liability risks in street light modification of a non Council asset.

GM-A

Crown Land - Delungra

S21.8.14

The General Manager noted that a number of Crown Land reserves in Delungra, including the old tennis courts on Yates Park are currently being utilised for activities including BMX riding, flying model airplanes, grazing stock etc. It was also noted that one reserve appears to have been subdivided for residential purposes.

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Johnston) that a report be prepared for the next Committee meeting on future land usage requirements for Delungra.*

Director  
Corporate and  
Economic  
Services

Oliver Street Extension

Director Corporate and Economic Services, Mr Ken Beddie provided an update on progress with the Department of Primary Industries Lands and the Office of Local Government for the compulsory acquisition of land in Oliver Street.

Essential Energy Land

Council has made an approach to Essential Energy to purchase the land located adjacent to the Inverell Council Works Depot.

DCS-A

Regional RFS Facilities

S9.18.1/09

Rural Fire Services (RFS) are seeking a location for a new \$4M Headquarters. It was requested of the Committee to advocate for the RFS Headquarters to be located in Inverell and for Council to offer assistance should the RFS choose Inverell.

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Baker) that the Committee recommend to Council that the 2016/17 RFS Budget include a provision of \$600K, to be funded from the Buildings Internally Restricted Asset for the purpose of establishing the Regional RFS Centre in Inverell.*

DCS-A

Inverell Pool Facility Master Plan

S26.13.3

The Committee was advised that a long term tenant of the Pool Complex is seeking a larger premise due to their growing business. The Committee was requested to consider whether that particular aspect of the Inverell Pool Facility Master Plan be commenced earlier to accommodate the tenant's needs.

*RESOLVED (Baker/Girle) that the Committee recommend to Council that a report be prepared for the Committee on that aspect of the Inverell Pool Facility Master Plan that addresses the expansion request from a longer term tenant, inclusive of the expansion plans, costs and rental review.*

SECTION H  
GOVERNANCE REPORTS

1. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE – INVERELL S23.16.5/09  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted and the adjustment of **\$1,123.14** be made in the Stores Ledger.*
2. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE – ASHFORD S23.16.5/08  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted.*
3. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE – FUEL TANKER T190 S23.16.5/08  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted and the adjustment of **\$684.52** made in the Stores Ledger.*
4. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE - FUEL TANKER T212 S23.16.5/08  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted and an adjustment of **-\$211.87** is made in the Stores Ledger.*
5. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE – YETMAN S23.16.5/08  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted and the adjustment of **\$81.81** made in the Stores Ledger.*
6. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE – INVERELL S23.16.5/08  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted and the adjustment of **-\$4.82** be made in the Stores Ledger.*
7. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE – INVERELL S23.16.5/08  
EC-A *RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted and the adjustment of **\$27.42** be made in the Stores Ledger.*
8. GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT S12.12.2/09  
*RESOLVED (Girle/Baker) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*
  - i) *the report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted; and*
  - ii) *the Certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted.*
9. QUARTERLY BUDGET AND OPERATIONAL PLAN REVIEW 2015/2016 S12.5.1/09  
DCS-N *RESOLVED (Harmon/Johnston) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*
  - i) *Council's Quarterly Operational Plan and Budget Review for 31 December, 2015 be adopted; and*
  - ii) *the proposed variations to budget votes for the 2015/2016 Financial Year be adopted providing an estimated Cash Surplus at 30 June, 2016 from operations of \$6,952.*

SECTION G  
CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS IN CLOSED COMMITTEE  
(SECTION 10A(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

At 12.13pm, the Chairperson offered the opportunity to members of the public to make representations as to whether any part of the Committee Meeting should not be considered in Closed Committee. There was no response from the public.

CLOSED COMMITTEE REPORTS

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Girle) that the Committee proceed into Closed Committee to discuss the matters referred to it, for the reasons stated in the motions of referral.*

Upon resuming Open Committee, at 12.47pm, the Chair verbally reported that the Committee, with the Press and Public excluded, having considered the matters referred to it, recommends as follows:

1. LAND SALES – VARIOUS S5.2.0/09 & S5.2.48

GM-A *That the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) Council approach a local real estate agent to provide a 'market value' for all unpriced Council operational land that may be available for sale;*
- ii) this information be provided to Council for setting the price for the individual parcels of land;*
- iii) the valuation be increased each year by the CPI to reset the 'asking price'; and*
- iv) the Mayor be authorised to discount the 'asking price' by a maximum of 10% if an enquiry is received that has a significant new employment component and there is a delay of at least a month before the next meeting of Council.*

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION

*RESOLVED (Baker/Michael) that the recommendation from Closed Committee be adopted.*

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.30pm.

CR J A WATTS

CHAIRPERSON