

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL, 144  
OTHO STREET, INVERELL ON WEDNESDAY, 11 MAY, 2016, COMMENCING AT  
9.11AM.

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

Also in attendance: Crs H N Castledine, B C Johnston and D C Jones.

Ken Beddie (Acting General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil and Environmental Services) and Stephen Golding (Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services).

SECTION A

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies received.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*RESOLVED (Michael/Harmon) that the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 13 April, 2016 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

The following interests were declared:

- Cr Michael declared a pecuniary interest in Section G, Confidential Reports, Item 2, "104 Otho Street, Inverell – Additional Detail". The nature of the interest relates to Cr Michael's association with a developer with a possible interest in the property.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cr Watts clarified that, in reference to Section B, Advocacy Reports, "Domestic Violence Awareness Evening", 163 people were in attendance at the training and 275 people present at the dinner.

SECTION B  
ADVOCACY REPORTS

Cr Baker North East Library Zone Meeting

Cr Baker noted her attendance at the North East Library Zone meeting with Council's Manager Library Services, Mrs Sonya Lange.

The major issue was the proposed merger of Councils in the zone. The concern was the potential loss of librarian staff and members of the North East Library Zone.

SECTION F  
QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Harmon Air Services

Cr Harmon informed the Committee that the Regional Airline, Fly Corporate has announced the introduction of a direct air service between Armidale and Brisbane, commencing 1 August, 2016.

Acting General Manager     Air Flights to Sydney – Charter Costs

At the previous Committee Meeting, Cr Baker requested the cost of chartering Sydney return flights that could provide an alternate travel for Sydney residents attending Opera in the Paddock. Mr Ken Beddie advised that Inverell Aviation's indicative price for a five (5) seat aircraft is \$8000 and Corporate Air, from Mascot to Inverell return is;

19 seat aircraft - \$11,000 (crew of 2 pilots)

30 seat aircraft - \$22,900 (crew of 2 pilots and 1 flight attendant)

It is noted that these prices do not include GST and additional costs of keeping the aircraft and crews in Inverell, as this price is a straight pickup/drop off scenario.

SECTION D  
DESTINATION REPORTS

CSOP-A     1.     EXPIRING LICENCE AGREEMENTS     S5.10.65

1.     Licence Agreement, Mr George Sherry – Part Lot 1, DP 1140913, Cameron Park and Part Closed Road, Inverell.

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Girle) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i)     Council renew the agreement with Mr George Sherry for Part Lot 1, DP 1140913, Cameron Park and Part Closed Road, Inverell for a three (3) year period with a further three (3) year option under the same terms and conditions;*
- ii)   the licence fee be \$390.00 per annum (GST Inclusive) with a 3% increase per annum; and*
- iii)   the Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.*

2.     Licence Agreement, Mr Colin Laidlaw – Part Lot 1, DP 1140913, Cameron Park and Part Closed Road, Inverell.

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Girle) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i)     Council renew the agreement with Mr Colin Laidlaw for Part Lot 1, DP 1140913 Cameron Park and Part Closed Road, Inverell for a three (3) year period with a further three (3) year option under the same terms and conditions;*
- ii)   the licence fee be \$420.00 per annum (GST inclusive) with a 3% increase per annum; and*
- iii)   the Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.*

2.     REQUEST FOR REDUCTION ON WATER ACCOUNT (LISTING)  
S32.10.1/09

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

- i)     the matters and information involve 'the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer.' (Section 10A(2)(b) 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.*

3. INVERELL MEN'S HEALTH NIGHT - REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE S12.22.1/09

GM-A *MOTION (Baker/Harmon) that the Committee recommend to Council that a donation of \$1000 be provided in support of the event, subject to further information being provided regarding the event including Hunter New England's involvement and support.*

*AMENDMENT (Michael/Girle) that the Committee recommend to Council that a donation of \$500 be provided in support of the event, subject to further information being provided regarding the event including Hunter New England's involvement and support.*

*The amendment on being put to the meeting was lost. The motion on being put to the meeting was carried.*

4. 104 OTHO STREET, INVERELL – ADDITIONAL DETAIL (LISTING) S5.2.1/18

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

- i) *the matters and information involve '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. ARTS NORTH WEST S26.5.4

GM-A *RESOLVED (Harmon/Michael) that:*

- i) *the report be received and noted; and*
- ii) *a representative from Arts North West be invited to attend a Council Meeting to present the benefits and opportunities of being a member of Arts North West.*

2. ELECTRO MAGNETIC FREQUENCIES (EMF) EMISSIONS S24.5.3

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Michael) that the items contained in the Information Reports to the Economic & Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 11 May, 2016, be received and noted.*

SECTION H  
GOVERNANCE REPORTS

1. GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT S12.12.2/09

*RESOLVED (Michael/Harmon) 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.*

2. QUARTERLY BUDGET AND OPERATIONAL PLAN REVIEW 2015/2016  
S12.5.1/09

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Michael) that the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) Council's Quarterly Operational Plan and Budget Review for 31 March, 2016 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 9.43am, 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 9.59am, the Chair verbally reported that the Committee, with the Press and Public excluded, having considered the matters referred to it, recommends as follows:

1. REQUEST FOR REDUCTION ON WATER ACCOUNT S32.10.1/09

FO-A *That the Committee recommend to Council that Council issue an amended account of \$254.82 for the quarter in question, based on the average consumption for the last two (2) accounts and write off \$401.41.*

At this juncture, the time being 9.44am, having previously declared a pecuniary interest in Section G, Confidential Reports, Item 2, "104 Otho Street, Inverell – Additional Detail", Cr Michael left the meeting and did not participate in the vote in this matter.

2. 104 OTHO STREET, INVERELL – ADDITIONAL DETAIL S5.2.1/18

GM-A *That the Committee recommend to Council that the offer from BEST Employment for the purchase of 104 Otho Street, Inverell be declined.*

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION

*RESOLVED (Harmon/Girle) that the recommendation from Closed Committee be adopted.*

At this juncture, the time being 9.59am, Cr Michael returned to the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.04am.

CR J A WATTS

CHAIRPERSON