

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT THE YETMAN HALL, YETMAN ON WEDNESDAY, 12 AUGUST,
2015, COMMENCING AT 11.41 AM.

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.

Paul Henry (General Manager), Ken Beddie (Director Corporate and Economic Services), Brett McInnes (Director Civil and Environmental Services), Stephen Golding (Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services), Anthony Alliston (Manager Development Services) and Justin Pay (Manager Civil Engineering).

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies received.

SECTION A

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED (Michael/Harmon) that the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 8 July, 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

The following interests were declared:

- Cr Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in Section G, Confidential Reports, Item #2, "Appointment of State Emergency Service (SES) Controllers". The nature of the interest relates to Cr Jones being the Deputy SES Unit Controller.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

SECTION B
ADVOCACY REPORTS

Cr Michael Henderson Street Roundabout Art Sculpture

Cr Michael informed the Committee that following the closing date for Expressions of Interest, approximately 20 submissions had been received. Four (4) submissions have been shortlisted. The two (2) week voting period is now open with the final art work being chosen on 12 September, 2015. Voting is available at the Inverell Art Gallery and the Council Administration Centre.

SECTION D
DESTINATION REPORTS

1. ROADS TO RECOVERY PROGRAM 2015/2016 S15.8.23/09

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

- i) *the additional \$0.78M to be received for the 2015/2016 Roads to Recovery Program be allocated as follows:*

- a) *Additional Bitumen Reseals* \$0.12M
b) *Additional Gravel Resheeting* \$0.66M

- ii) *a further Report be submitted to the Committee in respect of the specific projects that can be undertaken from the additional \$2.1M 2016/2017 allocation in the areas of Bitumen Roads Shoulder Widening, Bitumen Road Re-alignment and New Bitumen; and*

- iii) *Council write to the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Warren Truss expressing Council's gratitude for the substantial additional allocation of funds for the Roads to Recovery Program and respectfully request that the Roads to Recovery Program additional allocations be maintained in future years from the Fuel Excise indexation.*

2. COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM S15.8.25/08

DCS-A *RESOLVED (Harmon/Michael) that the Committee recommend to Council that the 2015 Community Building Partnership Applications be endorsed.*

3. EXPIRING LEASE AGREEMENT – BILLABONG BLUE S5.10.105

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

- i) *Council renew the Agreement for a further three (3) year period with a further three (3) year option under the same terms and conditions;*
ii) *the Lease Fee be \$5850 per annum (GST Inclusive) with a 3% increase per annum; and*
iii) *the Lease Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.*

4. REQUEST FOR REDUCTION ON WATER ACCOUNT (LISTING)
S32.10.1/08

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

- i) *the matters and information are '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.*

5. APPOINTMENT OF STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE (SES) CONTROLLERS
(LISTING) S9.1.2

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

- i) *the matters and information are 'Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councilors).' (Section 10A(2)(a) 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 F
QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Michael Newstead Homestead

Cr Michael enquired about the status of the historic Newstead Homestead and the ongoing arrangement to oversee and direct the long term management and conservation of the Homestead.

Cr Watts Delungra Police Officer

Cr Watts asked if the vacant Delungra Police Officer position was going to be refilled.

The General Manager advised that there is a lengthy process to be followed and that filling of the vacancy is currently in progress.

Cr Harmon Drugs – ICE

Cr Harmon informed the Committee that the Police and Hospital advised that reports of the ice drug epidemic is not reflective through the Hospital Service and Police statistics.

Cr Watts Homelessness Awareness Event

Cr Watts noted the criticism of Council in the Inverell Times Newspaper regarding non attendance by a Council representative.

The General Manager advised that Council was not invited to send a representative to the event. The event was to inform people that are or may be homeless about services available to assist them.

Cr Johnston Yetman Community

Cr Johnston made mention of Council's Waste Management Strategy and the direction of landfill sites inline with the EPA; such as transfer stations and closing of small village tips.

The Director Civil and Environmental Services informed the Yetman public at the Committee Meeting of the reason, issues and current situation. There are a number of factors that will determine the specific date for establishing the Yetman transfer station.

SECTION H
GOVERNANCE REPORTS

1. STORES & MATERIALS STOCKTAKE S23.16.5/08

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

- i) *the stores and materials Stocktake information be received and noted; and*
- ii) *the adjustment of **\$600.03** be made in the Stores Ledger.*

2. GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT S12.12.2/08

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.*

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

At 12.05pm, 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/Michael) 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 12.06pm, 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 S32.10.1/08

DC-A *That the Committee recommend to Council that Council issue an amended account of \$136.00 for the past two (2) quarters based on the average consumption for the last five (5) accounts and write off \$699.90.*

It is noted that, having declared a non-pecuniary interest in Section G, Confidential Reports, Item #2, "Appointment of State Emergency Service (SES) Controllers", Cr Jones did not participate in discussion or voting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE (SES) CONTROLLERS
S9.1.2

GM-A *That the Committee recommend to Council that the Acting Regional SES Controller, North West Region be advised that Council concurs with the following recommended appointments:*

*Ms Melanie Press - Ashford Unit Controller.
Ms Marie Crompton - Yetman Unit Controller.
Mr Dale Hersee - Inverell Unit Controller.*

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.19pm.

CR J A WATTS

CHAIRPERSON