

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,
INVERELL
ON WEDNESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2024 AT 3.00PM**

PRESENT: Cr Fiona Brown, Cr Kate Dight, Cr Paul Harmon, Cr Ian Hooker, Cr Greg Kachel, Cr Paul King OAM, Cr Jacko Ross, Cr Wendy Wilks and Cr Jo Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE: Brett McInnes (General Manager), Paul Pay (Director Corporate and Community Services), Anthony Alliston (Director Environmental Services), Justin Pay (Director Civil Services) and Sharon Stafford (Governance and Executive Services Coordinator).

Mr Brett McInnes, General Manager (Returning Officer) declared the inaugural meeting of the elected Council for the 2024 – 28 term open.

Mr McInnes chaired the initial stages of the meeting until the conclusion of the Mayoral Election.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY S13.6.1

Prior to the meeting and in accordance with s.233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, all Councillors took an Oath or Affirmation of Office before the General Manager of the Council. The following Oaths/Affirmations were recorded:

<i>Cr Fiona Brown</i>	<i>Affirmation</i>
<i>Cr Catherine Dight</i>	<i>Oath</i>
<i>Cr Paul Harmon</i>	<i>Oath</i>
<i>Cr Greg Kachel</i>	<i>Affirmation</i>
<i>Cr Paul King OAM</i>	<i>Oath</i>
<i>Cr Ian Hooker</i>	<i>Oath</i>
<i>Cr John Alexander Ross</i>	<i>Oath</i>
<i>Cr Wendy Wilks</i>	<i>Oath</i>
<i>Cr Joanne Williams</i>	<i>Oath</i>

1 APOLOGIES

Nil

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 2024/159

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 4 September 2024, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

3 ELECTIONS

3.1 ELECTION OF MAYOR S13.7.2

RESOLUTION 2024/160

Moved: Cr Greg Kachel

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

That:

- i) In the event that more than one candidate has been nominated for the position of Mayor the method of election for Mayor be by Ordinary Ballot;*
- ii) The nomination forms and ballot papers used in the election be destroyed following the declaration of the result;*
- iii) Each candidate be provided an opportunity to address Council for 5 minutes prior to the election taking place in support of their candidacy; and*
- iv) The order of speaking be by way of a draw from a hat.*

CARRIED

The Returning Officer advised that nomination forms for the position of mayor were received from Cr Paul Harmon and Cr Catherine Dight. Both candidates accepted their nomination.

The Returning Officer advised that there being more than one nomination, an election would be held. The Returning Officer obtained concurrence from both nominees that the single draw from the hat would determine the order of speaking and position on the ballot paper.

Cr Kate Dight's name was subsequently first drawn from the hat and therefore she was offered the opportunity to speak first and appear first on the ballot paper. Both mayoral candidates addressed Council for five minutes.

The Returning Officer advised that following the conduct of the ballot, Cr Catherine Dight had received a majority of votes and was declared duly elected as Mayor in accordance with s.230(1) *Local Government Act 1993* for the ensuing two (2) year period.

Cr Dight assumed the Chair.

3.2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR S13.7.2

MOTION: 2024/161

Moved: Cr Greg Kachel

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

That:

- i) There shall be a Deputy Mayoral position on Council;*
- ii) The term of office for this position be 2 years;*
- iii) In the event that more than one candidate has been nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor the method of election for Deputy Mayor be determined by Ordinary Ballot; and*
- iv) The nomination forms and ballot papers used in the election be destroyed following the declaration of the result.*

CARRIED

The Returning Officer advised that a nomination from Cr Joanne Williams had been received.

Cr Joanne Williams accepted her nomination.

There being only 1 nomination, the election was dispensed with and Cr Joanne Williams was declared duly elected Deputy Mayor for the ensuing two (2) year period.

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS / PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil.

5 DESTINATION REPORTS

5.1 MEETING DATES AND TIMES S13.5.4

RESOLUTION 2024/162

Moved: Cr Jo Williams

Seconded: Cr Paul King OAM

That:

- i) Ordinary Meetings be held on the 4th Wednesday of the month commencing at 11am;*
- ii) Major Committee Meetings be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, with the Civil & Environmental Services Committee Meeting commencing at 9am and the Economic & Community Sustainability Committee Meeting commencing at 10.30am; with the frequency of the Major Committee Meetings be reviewed by the respective committees for recommendation to the next Ordinary Council meeting;*
- iii) The December Ordinary Meeting be held on Wednesday, 18 December 2024; with no Committee Meetings that month; and*

iv) *No Council or Committee Meetings be held in January 2025.*

CARRIED

At this juncture, the time being 3.45pm Cr Wilks left the meeting, returning at 3.46pm.

5.2 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES S13.6.7

RESOLUTION 2024/163

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon
 Seconded: Cr Paul King OAM

That:

- i) *the following Councillors be appointed to the two (2) major committees:*

Economic & Community Sustainability Committee – Crs King, Kachel, Brown and Williams

Civil & Environmental Services Committee – Crs Harmon, Ross, Hooker and Wilks
- ii) *the Chairperson of each Committee be delegated authority to co-opt Councillors in attendance at the meeting to be a member of the Committee to that meeting for the purpose of proving a quorum;*
- iii) *the following Councillors be appointed to the Advisory Committees:*

COMMITTEE	DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT	DELEGATES
Aboriginal Consultative Committee Established to promote an increased knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Culture and society in the wider community and to develop the interests of the Aboriginal people in the local area.	Mayor, General Manager, 1 Ashford Local Land Council, 1 Anaiwan Local Land Council, 5 members of the community	- Mayor - Cr King - (General Manager – servicing officer)
Audit Risk & Improvement Committee Committee established to guide the internal audit function of Council.	1 Representative (excluding the Mayor) and 3 independents	- Cr Wilks
Conduct Review Committee (Statutory term) Committee that establishes the facts of an allegation that has been referred to it in accordance with the provisions of Council’s Code of Conduct.	1 Representative (Mayor), General Manager), and 3 independents	- Mayor - General Manager - Expressions of Interest to be called for independents as required
Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) - Provision of the State Emergency Rescue and Management Act. The role of the LEMC is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent or reduce the impact of emergencies; • Ensure the preparedness of our community; 	Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO).	- Director Civil Services

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an effective and coordinated response to the emergency; • Provide for the recovery of our community. 		
<p>Local Traffic Committee (LTC) A technical review committee that advises the Council on matters for which the Council has delegated authority. Council is not bound by the advice given by its LTC, however if Council does wish to act contrary to the unanimous advice of the LTC or when the advice is not unanimous, it must notify the RMS & the NSW Police before proceeding.</p>	LTC comprises 4 formal representatives: - 1 Council - 1 NSW Police - 1 RMS - 1 Local State Member or their nominee	- Director Civil Services (delegated by the Mayor).
<p>Waste Management Sunset Committee A Committee formed to: a. Review the approved Waste Management Strategy and recommend any appropriate amendments to Council for consideration, and b. The issues of Container Deposit Scheme and scavenging rights be referred to the Sunset Committee for consideration.</p>	Comprises 3 Representatives	- Cr Harmon - Cr King - Cr Ross
<p>Public Art Sunset Committee A sub-committee formed to work with the Inverell Art Gallery Supervisor and Inverell Cultural Group president to develop a vision for public art projects in Inverell Shire.</p>	Comprises: - General Manager or his nominee - 1 Representative - 3 community reps	- Manager Administrative and Marketing Services - Cr Williams - Cr Hooker (in lieu of General Manager)

iv) *the following Councillors be appointed to the Community Committees:*

COMMITTEE	DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT	DELEGATES
Delungra District Development Council	1 Representative	To be held in abeyance
Inverell Equestrian Centre Management Committee	(Fixed Term) 1 Representative	Cr Kachel
Inverell Development Support Group	2 Representatives (Mayor & General Manager)	No further action at this time
Inverell Liquor Consultative Committee	1 Representative	Cr King
Inverell Sports Council	(Fixed Term) 2 Representatives	Cr Ross Cr Kachel
Inverell Sapphire City Festival	1 Representative	Mayor (ex-officio) Cr Williams
Sapphire Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee	2 Councillor Representatives - 2 Community Representatives (currently being advertised)	Cr Dight Cr Ross General Manager (or his nominee)

	- General Manager	
Yetman Hall & Progress Association	1 Representative	Cr Dight
Youth Council	1 Representative	Mayor (ex-officio) Cr Hooker

CARRIED

5.3 ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO REGIONAL & LOCAL ORGANISATIONS (ANNUAL APPOINTMENT) S13.6.7

RESOLUTION 2024/164
 Moved: Cr Paul Harmon
 Seconded: Cr Fiona Brown
 That:

i) *the following Council delegates be appointed to the Regional & Local Organisations:*

COMMITTEE	DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT	DELEGATES
Country Public Libraries Association of NSW	1 Representative	Cr Brown
Inverell Pioneer Village	1 Representative	Cr Harmon
Northern Tablelands Bush Fire Management Committee	1 Representative	Local Emergency Management Officer (Director Civil Services)
North West Weight of Loads Group	1 Representative	Director Civil Services
Border Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC)	1 Representative	Cr Dight

CARRIED

5.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS - COUNTBACK OPTION S13.7.4/05

RESOLUTION 2024/165
 Moved: Cr Wendy Wilks
 Seconded: Cr Ian Hooker

Pursuant to Section 291A(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993, Inverell Shire Council declares that:

i) *Casual vacancies occurring in the office of a Councillor within 18 months after the last ordinary election of Councillors for the Council on the 14 September 2024 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at the election for the office in accordance with Section 291A of the Act; and*

ii) *Directs the General Manager to notify the NSW Electoral Commissioner of the Council's decision within 7 days of the decision.*

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 4.19pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 October 2024.