

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,
INVERELL
ON WEDNESDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2024 AT 11:00 AM**

PRESENT: Councillor Kate Dight, Councillor Fiona Brown, Councillor Ian Hooker, Councillor Greg Kachel, Councillor Paul King, Councillor John Ross, Councillor Wendy Wilks and Councillor Joanne Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE: Brett McInnes (General Manager), Justin Pay (Director Civil Services), Anthony Alliston (Director Environmental Services), Sharon Stafford (Governance and Executive Services Coordinator) and Peter Caddey (Manager Administrative and Marketing Services).

1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION: 2024/244

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Ross

That the apology received from Cr Paul Harmon for personal reasons be accepted and leave of absence granted.

Carried

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 27 NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024/245

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 27 November 2024 as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Carried

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS / PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cr Dight declared a Pecuniary Interest of a significant nature in relation to Item #12.18 '*IPART Review Proposed NSW Bulk Water Charges 2025/2030 - Correspondence from Brendan Moylan MP*'. The nature of the interest is that Cr Dight is the spouse of an individual who is a water customer.

4 PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Bob Rogers, President, Macintyre Lions Club presented Council with a \$1,000 cheque towards the establishment of the Reflection Garden in Victoria Park.

Cr King and Cr Dight accepted the cheque and thanked the Macintyre Lions Club for their generous contribution and continued support of this community project.

5 MAYORAL MINUTE

6 ELECTIONS

7 ADVOCACY REPORTS

7.1 COREM, COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION AND LGNSW CONFERENCE

RESOLUTION: 2024/246

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

8 NOTICES OF BUSINESS

9 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10 COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 28 NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024/247

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the minutes from the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 28 November 2024 be received and noted.

Carried

11 DESTINATION REPORTS

11.1 CONCURRENCE REQUEST - KOALA SURVEY - DEPARTMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER - RESERVE 91076 - LOT 179 DP 753664 - THE CROWN JEWELL HILL TINGHA COPETON DAM RECREATION RESERVE - CROWN LANDS NSW

RESOLUTION: 2024/248

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Kachel

That Council provide concurrence for a short term licence to be entered into between the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) and Crown Lands NSW for the purpose of undertaking Environmental Studies - Koala Surveys over the southern part of Reserve 91076 – Lot 179 DP 753664, the Crown Jewell Hill Tingha Copeton Dam Recreation Reserve.

Carried

11.2 2026 SWIMMING NSW COUNTRY REGIONAL MEET

RESOLUTION: 2024/249

Moved: Councillor King

Seconded: Councillor Ross

That:

- i. Council sponsor the 2026 Swimming NSW Country Regional Meet event from the Tourism Industry Promotions Vote at a cost of \$5,000 payable to Swimming NSW plus a Service Fee to Sports Marketing Australia of \$2,200;*
- ii. Council subsidise the entry fees for competitors and officials, as required, payable to Belgravia Leisure;*
- iii. Suitable publicity be arranged by Council and once a firm date is known, Council through Tourism Inverell, advise accommodation providers; and*
- iv. Council offer any other support as deemed necessary to ensure the success of this event.*

Carried

11.3 WATER & SEWER SERVICES STRATEGIC PLANNING

RESOLUTION: 2024/250

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor Williams

That Council:

- i. proceed with the development of strategic plans for Council's water and sewer services estimated to cost \$702,000;*
- ii. accept the offer of financial assistance for developing the strategic plans under the NSW Government Safe & Secure Water Program, on a 40% Council / 60% NSW Government funding basis;*
- iii. accept the proposal from NSW Public Works to develop the strategic plans, estimated to cost \$593,000; and*
- iv. Council's \$281,000 share of the project cost, be equally funded from the water fund and sewer fund reserves.*

Carried

11.4 ESTABLISHMENT OF A POST OFFICE BANK

Motion

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Brown

That Council not support the establishment of a government-owned post office bank.

The Motion on being put to the meeting was lost.

Lost

RESOLUTION: 2024/251

Moved: Councillor Ross

Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That Council endorse in principle the establishment of a government-owned post office bank.

Carried

11.5 REQUEST FOR DONATION - ASHFORD BUSINESS COUNCIL - BACK TO ASHFORD REUNION 2025

RESOLUTION: 2024/252

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor King

That Council provide a donation of \$4,191 to the Ashford Business Council for the Back to Ashford Reunion being held on 19 - 20 April 2025 with the funds to be allocated from the Ashford Village Development Vote.

Carried

12 INFORMATION REPORTS

12.1 NEW SOUTH WALES PUBLIC LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RESOLUTION: 2024/253

Moved: Councillor Brown

Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.2 ROB ROY RECREATION RESERVE - APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL AS LAND MANAGER

RESOLUTION: 2024/254

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor Kachel

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.3 CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION SESSION

RESOLUTION: 2024/255

Moved: Councillor Brown

Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.4 STRATEGIC TASKS - 'SIGN OFF' - NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024/256

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor Williams

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.5 2024 NSW POPULATION PROJECTIONS

RESOLUTION: 2024/257

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor Ross

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.6 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES INQUIRY REPORT

RESOLUTION: 2024/258

Moved: Councillor Brown

Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.7 WORKS UPDATE

RESOLUTION: 2024/259

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor Williams

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.8 ORDINANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024/260

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.9 SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES FOR THE PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024/261

Moved: Councillor Ross

Seconded: Councillor Brown

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.10 AUSTRALIA DAY 2025 FUNDING

RESOLUTION: 2024/262

Moved: Councillor Ross
 Seconded: Councillor Brown

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.11 INVERELL NETBALL COURTS REPLACEMENT

RESOLUTION: 2024/263

Moved: Councillor Williams
 Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.12 BONSHAW WATER SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS

RESOLUTION: 2024/264

Moved: Councillor Williams
 Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.13 COMPLIANCE - OVERGROWN AND UNSIGHTLY LAND

RESOLUTION: 2024/265

Moved: Councillor Kachel
 Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.14 PCG MEETING - INVERELL AQUATIC CENTRE REPLACEMENT

RESOLUTION: 2024/266

Moved: Councillor Wilks
 Seconded: Councillor Brown

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.15 UPDATE ON THE INVERELL BUNNINGS DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION: 2024/267

Moved: Councillor Wilks
 Seconded: Councillor King

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.16 RURAL AND REGIONAL CRIME INQUIRY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION: 2024/268

Moved: Councillor Williams
 Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

12.17 ANNUAL CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS REPORTING

RESOLUTION: 2024/269

Moved: Councillor Ross
 Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

At this juncture, the time being 12.12pm, Cr Dight left the Chambers having previously declared a Pecuniary Interest in respect to Item #12.18 'PART Review Proposed NSW Bulk Water Charges 2025/2030 - Correspondence from Brendan Moylan MP'.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Joanne Williams assumed the Chair.

12.18 IPART REVIEW PROPOSED NSW BULK WATER CHARGES 2025/2030 - CORRESPONDENCE FROM BRENDAN MOYLAN MP

RESOLUTION: 2024/270

Moved: Councillor Kachel
 Seconded: Councillor Wilks

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

At 12.14pm, Cr Dight returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

13 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

13.1 GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

RESOLUTION: 2024/271

Moved: Councillor Wilks
 Seconded: Councillor Brown

- i. That the report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted; and*
- ii. The Certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted.*

Carried

13.2 ARIC STRATEGIC WORKPLAN 2024-2028**RESOLUTION: 2024/272**

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor King

*That Council adopt the Strategic Workplan 2024-2028.***Carried****14 REFERRAL OF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS****14.1 REFERRAL OF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS****RESOLUTION: 2024/273**

Moved: Councillor Ross

Seconded: Councillor Hooker

That:

- i. *Council refer the items to Closed (Public Excluded) meeting of the Council and that the press and members of the public be asked to leave the chambers whilst Council considers the following items:*

Item: *New Electricity Contract - Small Sites***Authority:** *Section 10A (d) (i) of the Local Government Act 1993 as the report deals with Commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.*

- ii. *And that Council proceeds into Closed Council to discuss the matters referred to it, for the reasons stated in the motions of referral.*

Carried

At 12.16pm, the Chairperson offered the opportunity to members of the public as to whether any part of the meeting should not be considered in Closed Council. There was no response.

15 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE)**RESOLUTION: 2024/274**

Moved: Councillor King

Seconded: Councillor Williams

*That Council proceeds out of Closed Council into Open Council.***Carried**

Upon resuming Open Council at 12.18pm, the Chairperson verbally reported that the Council had met in Closed Council with the Press and Public excluded, and had resolved to recommend to Council the following:

15.1 NEW ELECTRICITY CONTRACT - SMALL SITES

RESOLUTION: 2024/275

Moved: Councillor Wilks

Seconded: Councillor King

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

16 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 12:20pm.

The Minutes of this meeting to be confirmed by Council at the meeting to be held on 26 February 2025.