

**MINUTES OF NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 46-48 MAITLAND STREET, NARRABRI
ON TUESDAY, 26 MARCH 2024 AT 1:00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr Darrell Tiemens, Cr Rohan Boehm, Cr Robert Browning, Cr Ron Campbell, Cr John Clements, Cr Brett Dickinson, Cr Greg Lamont, Cr Catherine Redding, Cr Lisa Richardson

IN ATTENDANCE: Rob Williams (General Manager), Michelle Henry (Acting Director Planning and Sustainability), Eloise Chaplain (Director Infrastructure Delivery), Ted Harrington (Director Financial and Commercial Services), Jason Townsend (Manager Governance and Risk), Samara Woolley (Minute Clerk)

Proceedings of the meeting commenced at 1:00 pm.

1 OPENING PRAYER

Members and officers were upstanding for the opening prayer by Travis Lions of Thrive Church Narrabri, in association with the Narrabri Ministers Fraternal.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the Council met, the Kamilaroi people, and the Council paid its respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3 RECOGNITION OF SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

Council acknowledged the sacrifice made by Australian service men and women, in particular those who gave their lives in defence of the freedom we enjoy today.

4 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

Nil

5 APOLOGIES/GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCES

Nil

6 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON- PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillors are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them. In considering your interest, you are reminded to include pecuniary, significant non-pecuniary and on-significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you. Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration. Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

COUNCILLOR	ITEM NUMBER	PECUNIARY/ NON-PECUNIARY	REASON
Cr Darrell Tiemens	15.2	Significant Non-Pecuniary	Is a member of Rotary

7 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL (PUBLIC EXCLUDED) MEETING

The following matters will be considered in the Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting:

18.1 Fee Waiver for Burial Interment

8 PRESENTATIONS

Presentations made to Council:

1. Nil.

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTE 036/2024

Moved: Cr Brett Dickinson Seconded: Cr Ron Campbell

1. That the minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Narrabri Shire Council held on 27 February 2024 as circularised be confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Mayor.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

10 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

Nil reports.

11 MATTERS OF GREAT URGENCY

Nil reports.

12 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil reports.

13 MAYORAL MINUTE

13.1 MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 17 FEBRUARY 2024 TO 17 MARCH 2024**MINUTE 037/2024**

Moved: Cr Darrell Tiemens

1. That Council note the Mayoral appointments for the period 17 February to 17 March 2024.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 8/0

At 1:11 pm, Cr John Clements entered the meeting.

14 OUR CIVIC LEADERSHIP

14.1 INVESTMENT REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024**MINUTE 038/2024**

Moved: Cr Brett Dickinson Seconded: Cr Ron Campbell

1. That Council note the Investment Report for February 2024.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0**14.2 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024****MINUTE 039/2024**

Moved: Cr Rohan Boehm Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson

1. That Council note the Monthly Financial reports for February 2024.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

14.3 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS RECTIFICATION PLAN**MINUTE 040/2024**

Moved: Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr John Clements

- 1. That Council note the progress of the Financial Statements Rectification Plan.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements,
Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

14.4 RESOLUTIONS REGISTER - FEBRUARY TO MARCH 2024**MINUTE 041/2024**

Moved: Cr John Clements Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

- 1. That Council receive and note the outstanding Resolutions Register as at 19 March 2024.**
- 2. That Council receive and note the completed Resolutions Register as at 19 March 2024.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements,
Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

14.5 INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY STATUS REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024**MINUTE 042/2024**

Moved: Cr John Clements Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

- 1. That Council receive and note the Infrastructure Delivery Status Report for February 2024.**
- 2. That Council receive and note the Local Traffic Committee Minutes of 12 December 2023 meeting.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

14.6 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024**MINUTE 043/2024**

Moved: Cr John Clements Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson

- 1. That Council receive the Planning and Development Report for February 2024**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

14.7 MOTIONS FOR NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024**MINUTE 044/2024**

Moved: Cr Lisa Richardson Seconded: Cr Ron Campbell

- 1. That Council authorise the General Manager to present the following motions to the 2024 National General Assembly of Local Government:**
 - a. Social and Affordable Housing – that the National General Assembly advocate to the Australian Government, to:**
 - (i) Increase sustained funding and maintain investment in public, social and affordable housing;**
 - (ii) Work with all levels of government to undertake a review of all government-owned property to identify suitable sites for redevelopment as affordable housing;**

- (iii) Continue to work with local Councils, developers and community housing organisations to facilitate the construction of affordable social housing; and
 - (iv) Ensure that any commensurate housing programs do not result in cost shifting to local government.
- b. Rural Health Crisis - that the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide long term investment for programming and services to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for communities in rural and regional areas and urgently establish a Rural Health Taskforce.
- c. Rural/Remote Public Transport Services – that the National General Assembly advocates to the Australian Government to give greater consideration to equity and accessibility of bus transport within remote rural and regional areas.
- d. Childcare – that the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government, in partnership with the States, to:
 - (i) Support regional and local government employees with parenting responsibilities to participate in the workforce, by providing targeted capital funding to identified at or nearing capacity areas to construct additional early education and childcare centres to meet community need, particularly for children in the 0-5 age range;
 - (ii) Further implementing taxation and educational incentives to address skills shortages and high vacancy rates for early childhood, childcare and outside school hours care educators in regional, rural, and remote Australia; and
 - (iii) Ensuring that the implementation of such programs shall not result in cost shifting to local government authorities.
- e. Renewable Energy – that the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government, to:
 - (i) Prioritise research and investment in recycling products from renewable industry in recognition of its status as a key national environmental priority; and
 - (ii) Develop a national legal framework to address end of life of solar panels and lithium batteries.
- f. Flood Insurance – that the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently progress the Inquiry into insurers’ responses to recent major flood claims, and to:
 - (i) Expedite its current suite of reforms to help reduce insurance costs for homeowners and businesses, and in addition;
 - (ii) Expand the disaster event re-insurance framework for all small, medium, rural and remote area communities impacted by natural disasters;
 - (iii) Increase targeted investment in community resilience building initiatives at the regional level; and

(iv) Invest in increased and sustained infrastructure betterment funding to local governments.

- g. Constitutional Recognition - That the National General Assembly advocate for the Federal Government to recognise local government in the Constitution of Australia.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

14.8 DRAFT TRANSPORT FOR NSW (TFNSW) CUSTOMER JOURNEY RESILIENCE PLAN - NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST

MINUTE 045/2024

Moved: Cr John Clements Seconded: Cr Ron Campbell

1. That Council receive and note the report on the Draft Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Customer Journey Resilience Plan – New England North West.
2. That Council endorse the draft organisational submission on the Draft Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Customer Journey Resilience Plan – New England North West.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

At 2:01 pm, Cr John Clements left the meeting.

14.9 2024 LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS**MINUTE 046/2024**

Moved: Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr Rohan Boehm

- 1. That Council nominates Cr Brett Dickinson to attend the 2024 Roads Congress taking place in Sydney on 3 June 2024.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0

14.10 DELEGATE REPORT - MINUTES OF THE MAULES CREEK COAL MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - 14 FEBRUARY 2024**MINUTE 047/2024**

Moved: Cr Brett Dickinson Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

- 1. That Council note the Delegate Report on the minutes of the Maules Creek Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee meeting held on 14 February 2024.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0

14.11 DELEGATE REPORT - MINUTES OF THE TARRAWONGA COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - 14 FEBRUARY 2024**MINUTE 048/2024**

Moved: Cr Darrell Tiemens Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson

- 1. That Council note the Delegate Report on the minutes of the Tarrawonga Coal Community Consultative Committee meeting held on 14 February 2024.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0

Supplementary Item 14.3 was dealt with at a later part in the meeting.

15 OUR SOCIETY**15.1 APPLICATION FOR CONCESSIONAL USE OF THE CROSSING THEATRE- NSW EMBROIDERERS' GUILD, NARRABRI GROUP****MINUTE 049/2024**

Moved: Cr Rohan Boehm Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

- 1. That Council approve the concessional use rate of 50% of the room hire to the NSW Embroiderers' Guild, Narrabri Group**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0

The Mayor vacated the Chair.

At 2:10 pm, Cr Tiemens left the meeting after declaring a pecuniary interest in relation to Item 15.2, due to a non-pecuniary non-significant interest due to being a member of Rotary Club and was not present at or in sight of the meeting during the consideration of the item.

At 2:10pm, Cr Brett Dickinson assumed chair of the meeting.

15.2 APPLICATION FOR CONCESSIONAL USE OF THE CROSSING THEATRE- ROTARY CLUB OF NARRABRI- SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

MINUTE 050/2024

Moved: Cr Rohan Boehm Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

- 1. That Council approve the concessional use rate of 50% of the room hire to the Rotary Club of Narrabri.**

In Favour: Crs Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Crs Darrell Tiemens and John Clements

CARRIED 7/0

At 2:13 pm, Cr Greg Lamont left the meeting.

At 2:13 pm, Cr Darrell Tiemens returned to the meeting.

At 2:13pm, Cr Darrell Tiemens resumed chair of the meeting.

At 2:15 pm, Cr Greg Lamont returned to the meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY 14.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - NAMOI RIVER BRIDGE**MINUTE 051/2024**

Moved: Cr Brett Dickinson Seconded: Cr Rohan Boehm

- 1. That Narrabri Shire Council writes to the Minister and Transport for NSW in relation to the bridge across the Namoi River on the Newell Highway (Cooma Road) expressing our concern at the lack of segregation between pedestrians (particularly school children and others) and the busy highway. We note that this highway is an important route for wide loads so any solution would need to accommodate wide loads while reducing risks to pedestrians.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0CARRIED

16 OUR ENVIRONMENT**16.1 REGULATORY COMPLIANCE REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024****MINUTE 052/2024**

Moved: Cr Brett Dickinson Seconded: Cr Lisa Richardson

- 1. That Council receive and note the Regulatory Services Report for February 2024.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0

17 OUR ECONOMY

Nil reports.

18 CONFIDENTIAL (CLOSED COUNCIL) MEETING**MINUTE 053/2024**

Moved: Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr Rohan Boehm

That Council move into Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting of Council and that the press and members of the public be asked to leave the room whilst Council considers the following items:

18.1 Fee Waiver for Burial Interment

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (b) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Cr John Clements

CARRIED 8/0

At 2:22 pm, Cr Brett Dickinson left the meeting.

At 2:23 pm, Cr Brett Dickinson returned to the meeting.

At 2:49 pm, Cr John Clements returned to the meeting.

18.1 FEE WAIVER FOR BURIAL INTERMENT**MINUTE 054/2024**

Moved: Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr Catherine Redding

1. That Council will review its policy regarding concessions for certain burials/interments in its next Policy review cycle.

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

MINUTE 055/2024

Moved: Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson

- 1. That Council move out of Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting and that the resolutions from the Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting be read out to those present by the Chair of the Meeting or their nominee.**

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont, Catherine Redding and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

THE COUNCIL MOVED OUT OF CLOSED (PUBLIC EXCLUDED MEETING), THE TIME BEING 3:58 PM AND THE GENERAL MANAGER READ OUT TO THOSE PRESENT THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CLOSED (PUBLIC EXCLUDED) MEETING.

19 MEETING CLOSED

The Meeting closed at 2:58pm.

The minutes of this meeting are scheduled to be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 30 April 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON