



AGENDA

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

12 APRIL 2021

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Diffey, V Etheridge, D Grant, D Gumley, A Jones, S Lawrence, G Mohr, K Parker, J Ryan and B Shields.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 12 noon.

PRAYER:

O God, Grant that by the knowledge of thy will, all we may resolve shall work together for good, we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:

"I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal peoples from other nations who are present".

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CCL21/50 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID21/550)

CCL21/51 PUBLIC FORUM (ID21/551)

MAYORAL MINUTES:

CCL21/52 THE REPUTATION OF COUNCIL AND THE PROTECTION OF THE COMMUNITY (ID21/565)

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The Council had before it the Mayoral Minute regarding The Reputation of Council and the Protection of the Community

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

CCL21/53 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE - COUNCILLOR B SHIELDS (ID21/554)

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The Council had before it the report dated 6 April 2021 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor B Shields.



MAYORAL MINUTE: The Reputation of Council and the Protection of the Community

AUTHOR: Acting Mayor
REPORT DATE: 7 April 2021
TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/565

To the Council
Ladies and Gentlemen

Office of the Mayor
Civic Administration Building
Church Street, Dubbo

I would like the following motion placed before the council for consideration and determination:

1. That Council condemns and will not tolerate abuse of power, bullying, harassment, threats and intimidation by any councillor or council staff member.
2. That Council is open to an independent investigator being appointed to examine any such complaints, suggestions and allegations of misconduct, the operation and integrity of council complaint processes over the term of the current council and any other matters of concern to councillors as might be later determined.
3. That Council's meeting schedule as previously resolved be amended so that there be additional Ordinary meetings of Council on 19 April 2021 and 3 May 2021.
4. That a confidential report be prepared for councillors for the 19 April 2021 Ordinary meeting of Council advising to the extent reasonably possible on;
 - a) any and all complaints, allegations and suggestions of misconduct on behalf of any councillor, that have at any stage of the term of council been brought to the attention of any council staff and not been the subject of a code of conduct process, and
 - b) code of conduct complaints against any councillor that have been withdrawn or dismissed without action.
5. That a report be prepared for the 3 May 2021 Ordinary meeting of Council that advises on council's bullying and harassment policies and any reforms needed in order for them to be best practise.
6. That a report be prepared for the 3 May 2021 Ordinary meeting of Council (if the Mayor Ben Shields has not resigned from council within that period or his position otherwise become vacant), with the CEO to provide a report on;
 - a) what powers of the mayor in between council meetings can be lawfully removed or reduced,
 - b) whether the mayoral fees, expenses and facilities as provided for in the 'Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors' and determined annually by council resolution can be lawfully reduced or eliminated.
7. That a report be prepared for the 3 May 2021 Ordinary meeting of Council advising on options for the appointment of an independent investigator and possible terms of reference for such an investigation.

8. That Council calls upon the Mayor to resign from council as soon as reasonably practicable to allow council to move forward in the best interests of the community.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council condemns and will not tolerate abuse of power, bullying, harassment, threats and intimidation by any councillor or council staff member.
2. That Council is open to an independent investigator being appointed to examine any such complaints, suggestions and allegations of misconduct, the operation and integrity of council complaint processes over the term of the current council, and any other matters of concern to councillors as might later be determined.
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Councillor S Lawrence
Acting Mayor



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

REPORT: Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor B Shields

AUTHOR: Chief Executive Officer
REPORT DATE: 6 April 2021
TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/554

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An application for Leave of Absence has been received for Councillor B Shields. This application is with respect to the period Wednesday 31 March 2021 to Wednesday 26 May 2021 where Councillor Shields will be absent due to personal reasons.

S234 of the Local Government Act permits prior leave of a Councillor being granted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Councillor B Shields application for Leave of Absence from Wednesday 31 March 2021 to Wednesday 26 May 2021, where Councillor Shields will be absent due to personal reasons, be granted.

Dean Frost
Chief Executive Officer