



# REPORT EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 JANUARY 2021

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

The Chief Executive Officer, the Manager Governance and Internal Control, the Community Support Officer, the Administration Officer – Mayor, the Communications Partner, the Director Organisational Performance (M Howlett), the Director Culture and Economy, the Director Infrastructure, the Director Development and Environment and the Director Liveability.

Councillor B Shields assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 12.33pm at the Dubbo Civic Administration Building, Council Chamber, with a prayer for Divine Guidance to the Council in its deliberations and activities. The acknowledgement of country was also read by Councillor V Etheridge.

**CCL21/1 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID21/6)**

A request for Leave of Absence was received from Councillor D Grant who was absent from the meeting due to the personal reasons.

Moved by Councillor A Jones and seconded by Councillor D Gumley

**MOTION**

**That such request for Leave of Absence be accepted and Councillor D Grant be granted leave of absence from this meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/2 PUBLIC FORUM (ID21/7)**

The Council reports having met with the following person during Public Forum:

- Ms Belinda Edmondson regarding item CCL21/6 - Report of the Street Tree Advisory Panel - meeting 18 January 2021.

**MAYORAL MINUTES:**

**CCL21/3 RETIREMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) MICHAEL MCMAHON (ID21/36)**

The Council had before it the Mayoral Minute regarding Retirement of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Michael McMahon.

Moved by Councillor B Shields

**MOTION**

1. That the Mayor and Council thank Michael McMahon for his commitment and contribution to DRC since December 2017 and also recognise his distinguished career of 41 years within the Local Government industry.
2. That the Mayor be authorised to facilitate the selection process for the Acting CEO with the full recruitment process to occur later this year.
3. Approval for an appropriate retirement function for Michael's farewell to be held in March 2021.

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/4 ENTRY TO DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRES - AUSTRALIA DAY (ID21/9)**

The Council had before it the Mayoral Minute regarding Entry to Dubbo Regional Council Aquatic Leisure Centres - Australia Day.

Moved by Councillor B Shields

**MOTION**

1. That the fees and charges in the 2020/2021 Budget for the three aquatic leisure centres in Dubbo, Wellington and Geurie be amended to allow for free entry on Australia Day, 26 January 2021.
2. That all future Australia Day events provide free entry to the three aquatic Leisure centres in Dubbo, Wellington and Geurie and future budgets incorporate such provision.

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/5 NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT FOR WELLINGTON (ID21/32)**

The Council had before it the Mayoral Minute regarding New Year's Eve Event for Wellington.

Moved by Councillor B Shields

**MOTION**

1. That Council call for submissions and expressions of interest from community organisations and individuals on a New Year's Eve event in Wellington.
2. That a report on outcomes of the submissions and expressions of interest be submitted to the May 2021 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**CARRIED**

**MATTERS CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEES:**

**CCL21/6 REPORT OF THE STREET TREE ADVISORY PANEL - MEETING 18 JANUARY 2021 (ID21/41)**

The Council had before it the report of the Street Tree Advisory Panel meeting held 18 January 2021.

Moved by Councillor J Ryan and seconded by Councillor V Etheridge

**MOTION**

**That the report of the Street Tree Advisory Panel meeting held on 18 January 2021, be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

Clause CCL21/9 was brought forward for consideration and dealt with at this juncture.

**CCL21/9 BEAUTIFICATION OF DUBBO CBD AND TALBRAGAR STREET TREE PLANTING, PUBLIC EXHIBITION FEEDBACK (ID21/11)**

The Council had before it the report dated 15 January 2021 from the Manager Recreation and Open Spaces regarding Beautification of Dubbo CBD and Talbragar Street tree planting, public exhibition feedback.

Moved by Councillor K Parker and seconded by Councillor V Etheridge

**MOTION**

1. That the report from the Manager Recreation and Open Space dated 15 January 2021 be noted.
2. That the Talbragar Street Beautification Concept Plan be endorsed enabling further development, assisting in determining street tree locations; and identifying any potential car parking impacts within the immediate area.

3. That following finalisation of the Talbragar Street Beautification Masterplan that implementation is aligned with the planned Talbragar Street pavement reconstruction, to minimise disruption to business owners and the community during the works.
4. That \$270,000 from the 2020/2021 Priority Tree Planting fund be returned, enabling completion of the Drought Resilient Landscape project, due to commence during April 2020 and that \$270,000 from the 2021/2022 Priority Tree Planting fund to go towards the Talbragar Street Beautification, if adopted, with further funds being identified through other Council savings.

Moved by Councillor G Mohr and seconded by Councillor S Lawrence

#### AMENDMENT

1. **That the report from the Manager Recreation and Open Space dated 15 January 2021 be noted.**
2. **That the Talbragar Street Beautification Concept Plan be endorsed enabling further development, assisting in determining street tree locations; and identifying any potential car parking impacts within the immediate area.**
3. **That following finalisation of the Talbragar Street Beautification Masterplan that implementation is aligned with the planned Talbragar Street pavement reconstruction, to minimise disruption to business owners and the community during the works.**
4. **That \$270,000 from the 2020/2021 Priority Tree Planting fund be returned, enabling completion of the Drought Resilient Landscape project, due to commence during April 2020 and that \$270,000 from the 2021/2022 Priority Tree Planting fund to go towards the Talbragar Street Beautification, if adopted, with further funds being identified through other Council savings.**
5. **That Council formulate a Talbragar Street Car Parking Strategy maximising the number of available car parks.**

The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried.

**CARRIED**

The amendment then became the motion and on being put to the meeting was carried.

**CARRIED**

*Councillor J Diffey declared a non-pecuniary, significant interest in the matter now before the Council and left the room and was out of sight during the Council's consideration of this matter. The reason for such interest is that one of the submissions is from a member of the community who donated to Councillor J Diffey's Council election campaign.*

**REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

**CCL21/7 ABORIGINAL ELECTORAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (ID21/18)**

The Council had before it the report dated 12 January 2021 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Aboriginal Electoral Engagement Strategy.

Moved by Councillor S Lawrence and seconded by Councillor J Ryan

**MOTION**

1. That Council engage Women for Election and offer their "Politics in Colour" program to Indigenous Women in the Local Government Area.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer seek support from the LGNSW President to make representations to the Minister for Local Government regarding appropriate education programs being created and made available to Indigenous community members in respect of the upcoming local government election.
3. That the Election Engagement Strategy be developed and available for Council in March 2021.

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/8 ROAD SAFETY ASSESSMENT - BOOTHENBA ROAD AND OLD MENDOORAN ROAD DUBBO (ID21/33)**

The Council had before it the report dated 19 January 2021 from the Safe Roads Engineer regarding Road Safety Assessment - Bootherba Road and Old Mendooran Road Dubbo.

Moved by Councillor G Mohr and seconded by Councillor J Ryan

**MOTION**

1. That Council commence the process to close the section of Old Mendooran Road between Bootherba Road and the Golden Highway.
2. That the alignment of the Bootherba Road and Old Mendooran Road intersection be redesigned to ensure the northern leg of Old Mendooran Road intersects Bootherba Road at 90°.

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/10 INITIAL CATEGORISATION OF CROWN LAND (ID21/13)**

The Council had before it the report dated 7 January 2021 from the Liveability Projects Officer regarding Initial Categorisation of Crown Land.

Moved by Councillor A Jones and seconded by Councillor K Parker

**MOTION**

1. That the report by the Liveability Projects Officer, dated 13 January 2020 be adopted.
2. That the report be submitted to the Department of Crown lands, with the Council resolution and supporting documentation for Ministerial consent.

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/11 OPERATIONS OF THE WESTERN PLAINS CULTURAL CENTRE CAFE (ID21/14)**

The Council had before it the report dated 7 January 2021 from the Director Culture and Economy regarding Operations of the Western Plains Cultural Centre Cafe.

Moved by Councillor J Diffey and seconded by Councillor V Etheridge

**MOTION**

1. That report of the Director Culture and Economy dated 7 January 2021 be noted.
2. That a report be provided to Council in October 2021 with regard to the trial of in-house café operations and consideration of a future operational structure.

**CARRIED**

**CCL21/12 RATES HARMONISATION (ID21/10)**

The Council had before it the report dated 6 January 2021 from the Revenue Accountant regarding Rates Harmonisation.

Moved by Councillor J Ryan and seconded by Councillor D Gumley

**MOTION**

1. That Council apply to the Minister for Local Government to set minimum ordinary rates in the 2021/2022 Dubbo Regional Council Rating Structure for the following rating categories and sub-categories that are above the 2021/2022 Statutory Limit for minimum ordinary rates:

a. Residential Urban	\$715.70
b. Residential Firgrove	\$699.60
c. Residential Richmond	\$699.60
d. Business Ordinary	\$715.70
e. Business Central Business District	\$715.70
f. Business Wellington	\$715.70
g. Business East Dubbo	\$715.70
h. Business Cobra Street	\$715.70

- i. Business Wellington Road \$715.70
- 2. That Council note the proposed minimum ordinary rates are consistent with those applicable to the current applicable minimum rates for the former Dubbo City Council.
- 3. That Community engagement be undertaken that Council related to the requirement to adopt a harmonised rating structure for the 2021/2022 financial year.
- 4. That as part of the comprehensive community engagement process Council establish a Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.
- 5. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor to select the committee membership of the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.
- 6. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the terms of reference and meeting arrangements for the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.

Moved by Councillor S Lawrence and seconded by Councillor J Ryan

#### AMENDMENT

- 1. That Council apply to the Minister for Local Government to set minimum ordinary rates in the 2021/2022 Dubbo Regional Council Rating Structure for the following rating categories and sub-categories that are above the 2021/2022 Statutory Limit for minimum ordinary rates:
  - a. Residential Urban \$715.70
  - b. Residential Firgrove \$699.60
  - c. Residential Richmond \$699.60
  - d. Business Ordinary \$715.70
  - e. Business Central Business District \$715.70
  - f. Business Wellington \$715.70
  - g. Business East Dubbo \$715.70
  - h. Business Cobra Street \$715.70
  - i. Business Wellington Road \$715.70
- 2. That Council note the proposed minimum ordinary rates are consistent with those applicable to the current applicable minimum rates for the former Dubbo City Council.
- 3. That Community engagement be undertaken that Council related to the requirement to adopt a harmonised rating structure for the 2021/2022 financial year.
- 4. That as part of the comprehensive community engagement process Council establish a Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.
- 5. That the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Mayor and two Chairman of Council's Standing Committees be authorised to select the Committee membership of the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group and that membership include one Councillor.
- 6. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the terms of reference and meeting arrangements for the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.

The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried.

CARRIED

The amendment then became the motion and on being put to the meeting was carried.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 1.08pm.

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CHAIRMAN