

Richmond  
Valley  
Council



# **MINUTES**

**Ordinary Council Meeting  
16 July 2019**

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**MINUTES OF RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 10 GRAHAM PLACE, CASINO  
ON TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2019 AT 5.00 PM**

*Please note: these minutes are subject to confirmation at the next Council Meeting. Decisions recorded in the draft minutes are subject to the Council's Code of Meeting Practice in relation to rescinding decisions.*

**PRESENT:** Cr Stephen Morrissey (Deputy Mayor), Cr Sam Cornish, Cr Robert Hayes, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Daniel Simpson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Vaughan Macdonald (General Manager), Angela Jones (Director Infrastructure & Environment), Ryan Gaiter (Chief Financial Officer/Manager Mid-Richmond), Charlene Reeves (Project Support Officer), Kaela Barber (Managerial Assistant)

## **1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor provided an Acknowledgement of Country by reading the following statement on behalf of Council:

*"Richmond Valley Council recognises the people of the Bundjalung Nations as Custodians and Traditional Owners of this land and we value and appreciate the continuing cultural connection to lands, their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region in the past, present and future."*

## **2 PRAYER**

The meeting opened with a prayer by the General Manager.

## **3 PUBLIC ACCESS AND QUESTION TIME**

### **3.1 PUBLIC ACCESS – DOCTOR RICHARD GATES**

Dr Richard Gates referred to items 15.1 Financial Analysis Report – June 2019 report and item 15.2 Review of Council's Investment Policy report.

Dr Gates spoke regarding the use of fossil fuels and investing with companies who support fossil fuel industries and if this practice continues, the concerns he has for future generations and how climate change will affect them.

Dr Gates provided an oral presentation of how Australia compares to the rest of the world in regards to the use of fossil fuels and green house gas emissions and; discussed Council's Investment Advisor, Imperial Markets and his concerns regarding relying on the company when there is no indication of whether their advice takes into account ethical investments. Dr Gates requested Council to incorporate into the current policy documents a statement about objectives with regards to fossil fuel investment divestment and for this to be an ongoing process for Council.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Dr Gates for his address.

## 4 APOLOGIES

### RESOLUTION 160719/1

Moved: Cr Robert Hayes  
Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That the apology received from Cr Lyons be accepted and leave of absence granted.

**CARRIED**

Cr Robert Mustow was previously granted leave of absence for the July Ordinary meeting.

## 5 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

## 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 6.1 MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2019

#### RESOLUTION 160719/2

Moved: Cr Sam Cornish  
Seconded: Cr Sandra Humphrys

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 25 June 2019.

**CARRIED**

### 6.2 MINUTES OF LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING (HELD ELECTRONICALLY) ON 28 JUNE 2019

#### RESOLUTION 160719/3

Moved: Cr Sam Cornish  
Seconded: Cr Sandra Humphrys

That Council receives and endorses the recommendation contained within the minutes of the Local Traffic Committee meeting held electronically on 28 June 2019.

**CARRIED**

## 7 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

### 14.1 Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2021, Draft Operational Plan 2019/2020 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2019/2023), Draft Revenue Policy 2019/2020 and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2019/2029)

Cr Hayes referred to the Draft Revenue Policy and asked for clarification whether Council has a Revenue Policy for the weigh bridge at the landfill for uses other than weighing rubbish and whether the landfills are a licenced weigh station and whether there is a charge for using those facilities?

The Chief Financial Officer advised that once the weighbridge is used as a public facility, there will be extra costs in calibrating the equipment. This is an item being looked at however the waste

team have determined that it will be too expensive at this stage to be able to bring that facility operational.

The General Manager advised that this issue will be looked into to see what is involved and the matter will be brought back to Council for their information.

## **8 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Nil

## **9 PETITIONS**

Nil

## **10 NOTICE OF MOTION**

Nil

## **11 MAYOR'S REPORT**

### **11.1 MAYOR'S ATTENDANCES 15 JUNE 2019 - 11 JULY 2019**

#### **RESOLUTION 160719/4**

Moved: Cr Stephen Morrissey

Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receive and note the Mayor's attendance report 15 June – 11 July 2019.

**CARRIED**

## **12 DELEGATE'S REPORTS**

### **12.1 DELEGATES' REPORT SUBMITTED TO JULY 2019 ORDINARY MEETING.**

#### **RESOLUTION 160719/5**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That Council receive and note the Delegates' report for the month of June 2019.

**CARRIED**

**13 MATTERS DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE**

**13.1 MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE**

**RESOLUTION 160719/6**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That items 17.1 identified be determined without debate.

**CARRIED**

## **14 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS**

### **14.1 JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL - NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council has been contacted by the secretariat of the Northern Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) advising of the need to review and confirm its nominated panel members to the Regional Planning Panel. Regional Planning Panels consist of five members, being: one chair (appointed by the Minister with concurrence of Local Government NSW); two members appointed by the Minister; and two Council appointed members.

Richmond Valley Council's first nominated representative is Cr Robert Hayes, with Cr Daniel Simpson nominated as his alternate. This nomination expires on 25 October 2019.

Council's second nominated Panel member is currently vacant. Richmond Valley Council had a reciprocal arrangement with Kyogle Shire Council whereby the Planning Director from each Council was nominated on the other's Panel. Unfortunately, the new Planning Director at Kyogle Council has declined to be a member of Richmond Valley Council's Panel.

Council needs to reappoint its Panel member(s) for a maximum of three years and advise the secretariat who its representatives will be.

#### **RESOLUTION 160719/7**

Moved: Cr Daniel Simpson

Seconded: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Recommended that:

1. Councillor Hayes be nominated to the Northern Joint Regional Planning Panel as Richmond Valley Council's first appointed member with Councillor Simpson as the alternative.
2. Council's second Regional Planning Panel member position remain vacant while enquiries continue with adjoining councils.
3. The following remuneration be offered to Council Panel members:
  - a. Councillor – to an amount of \$220 per meeting, plus allowances for travel and meals as per Council's Policy - Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors;
  - b. Community member – to an amount of \$220 per meeting;
  - c. Full-time Richmond Valley Council staff member – as per salary conditions;
  - d. Specialist appointment (non-Council employee) – as per agreed fee schedule; or
  - e. Reciprocal arrangement with another council – as per agreement (historically payment was negated as the representative received their normal salary)

**CARRIED**



**15 FINANCIAL REPORTS****15.1 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - JUNE 2019****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council on the status and performance of its investment portfolio in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (Section 625), *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (Clause 212), Australian Accounting Standard (AASB 139) and Council's Investment Policy.

The value of Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30 June 2019 including General Bank Accounts and Trust Funds is shown below.

| Investment Portfolio | General Bank Accounts | Trust Funds | Total        |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| \$46,086,113         | \$536,073             | \$87,050    | \$46,709,236 |

The average rate of return on Council's investments for June 2019 was 3.42% which is above the 90 Day Bank Bill Index for June of 1.20%.

**RESOLUTION 160719/8**

Moved: Cr Daniel Simpson

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

Recommended that Council adopt the Financial Analysis Report detailing investment performance for the month of June 2019 and note the positive returns and outcome for the 2018/19 financial year.

**CARRIED**

**15.2 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S INVESTMENT POLICY****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council reviews its Investment Policy on an annual basis and as part of the previous review a number of changes were made. These changes included utilising the Imperium Markets platform with the aim of achieving better returns as well as changes to the targeted allocation of funds held with the Commonwealth Bank (CBA), term deposits and NSW Treasury Corporation (TCorp).

An annual review of Council's Investment Policy has been undertaken, resulting in further refinements being recommended of which changes are detailed within this report.

**RESOLUTION 160719/9**

Moved: Cr Daniel Simpson

Seconded: Cr Sandra Humphrys

That Council note the recommended changes and adopt the revised Investments Policy.

**CARRIED**

**16 TENDER REPORTS**

Nil

**17 GENERAL BUSINESS****17.1 REGIONAL DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND REGIONAL RESTRICTION REGIME****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The primary objective of the Drought Management Plan (DMP) is to provide successful maintenance of a restricted water supply during drought without compromising public health and firefighting needs.

The current Richmond Valley Council (RVC) DMP, drafted in 2006, is outdated and based on the outdated 7-level restriction regime. Therefore, it does not align with the current Rous County Council (RCC) Regional Water Supply Drought Management Plan (RDMP), which is based on the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) 5-level restriction regime.

RCC has formally requested the Constituent Councils to consider applying the RDMP Restriction Regime to local water supply schemes to ensure a standard and consistent approach across the region when water restrictions are implemented.

RVC has two main water supply areas, the Casino water supply area (supplied from Jabour Weir) and the Mid-Richmond (MR) area supplied through the RCC bulk water supply scheme. Amending the RVC DMP in accordance with the RDMP will ensure that the same water restriction levels and rules apply across the LGA.

Water restrictions will be applied within the two water supply areas, as the respective raw water storage levels drop below what is considered normal supply levels, in an effort to reduce both residential and business demand to prolong supply.

**RESOLUTION 160719/10**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That Council adopt the Rous County Council (RCC) Regional Drought Management Plan and Water Restriction Regime for the Casino water supply system to standardise water restriction levels ensuring a consistent approach across the region.

**CARRIED**

**18 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION****RESOLUTION 160719/11**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

Recommended that the following reports submitted for information be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

**18.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JUNE 2019 TO 30 JUNE 2019**

**RESOLUTION 160719/12**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That Council receive and note the development application report for the period 1 June 2019 to 30 June 2019.

**CARRIED**

**18.2 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT - QUARTERLY UPDATE 1 APRIL 2019 TO 30 JUNE 2019**

**RESOLUTION 160719/13**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That Council receive and note the quarterly Customer Service Report for the period 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019

**CARRIED**

**18.3 GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION REPORT - JUNE 2019**

**RESOLUTION 160719/14**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That Council receive and note the Grant Application Information Report for the month of June 2019.

**CARRIED**

**18.4 WRITE-OFF OF MONIES UNDER DELEGATION**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the April 2015 Ordinary Meeting Council resolved to provide a summary report on a bi-annual basis outlining the write-offs made during the period under the General Manager's delegation.

This summary report covers the period commencing 1 April 2019 – 30 June 2019.

**RESOLUTION 160719/15**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys

Seconded: Cr Sam Cornish

That Council receive and note the information provided in this report.

**CARRIED**

**19 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Nil

**20 QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING (IN WRITING)**

Nil

The Meeting closed at 5:38 pm.

The minutes of this meeting are to be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 August 2019.

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**CHAIRPERSON**