

Richmond
Valley
Council



MINUTES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
16 November 2021**

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**MINUTES OF RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 10 GRAHAM PLACE, CASINO
ON TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 5.00PM**

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 Robert Mustow (Mayor), Cr Stephen Morrissey (Deputy Mayor), Cr Sam Cornish, Cr Robert Hayes, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Jill Lyons.

IN ATTENDANCE: Vaughan Macdonald (General Manager), Angela Jones (Director Community Service Delivery), Ryan Gaiter (Director Organisational Services), Ben Zeller (Director Projects & Business Development), Jenna Hazelwood (Leader Strategy), Julie Clark (Personal Assistant to the General Manager and Mayor), Kate Allder-Conn (Governance Coordinator), Simon Breeze (IT Support Officer)

Thomas, Noble & Russell, Partner Adam Bradfield– presentation of Item 15.1 Financial Statements 2020/21 (via audiolink)

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

Nil

4 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION 161121/1

Moved: Cr Robert Hayes

Seconded: Cr Jill Lyons

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

CARRIED

5 MAYORAL MINUTES

5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - NORTHERN RIVERS RAIL TRAIL

RESOLUTION 161121/2

Moved: Cr Robert Mustow

Seconded: Cr Stephen Morrissey

That Council:

1. Notes the announcement of \$9.9 million in Federal Government funding to complete the Bentley to Lismore section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.
2. Writes to the Member for Page, Kevin Hogan, MP and the Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis MP to thank them for their continued support of the Rail Trail project.

CARRIED

5.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL STAFF

RESOLUTION 161121/3

Moved: Cr Robert Mustow

Seconded: Cr Stephen Morrissey

That Council extends its thanks to Richmond Valley Council staff for their support and dedication throughout the 2016-2021 Council term.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2021

RESOLUTION 161121/4

Moved: Cr Stephen Morrissey

Seconded: Cr Jill Lyons

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19 October 2021.

CARRIED

Note: Cr Morrissey identified an omission from the 19 October 2021 Ordinary Meeting Minutes, wherein he had declared a non-pecuniary interest in Items 20.3 and 20.7, with only Item 20.7 being recorded.

The Minutes have been amended accordingly.

6.2 INTERNAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES 19 OCTOBER 2021 AND 3 NOVEMBER 2021**RESOLUTION 161121/5**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys
Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes the Minutes of the Internal Audit and Risk Committee meetings held on 19 October 2021 and 3 November 2021.

CARRIED

7 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Nil

8 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

9 PETITIONS

Nil

10 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

11 MAYOR'S REPORT**11.1 MAYORAL ATTENDANCES 12 OCTOBER - 12 NOVEMBER 2021****RESOLUTION 161121/6**

Moved: Cr Robert Mustow
Seconded: Cr Stephen Morrissey

That Council receives and notes the Mayor's attendance report from 12 October – 12 November 2021.

CARRIED

12 DELEGATES' REPORTS**12.1 DELEGATES' REPORT SUBMITTED TO NOVEMBER 2021 ORDINARY MEETING****RESOLUTION 161121/7**

Moved: Cr Sandra Humphrys
Seconded: Cr Robert Mustow

That Council receives and notes the Delegates' Report for the month of November 2021.

CARRIED

13 MATTERS DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE**13.1 MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE**

Nil

14 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS**14.1 ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Annual Report is a key point of accountability between Council and its community. It reports on Council's financial performance and its progress in implementing the Delivery Program and achieving Community Strategic Plan outcomes.

The 2020/2021 financial year has been another dynamic year in the Richmond Valley marked by new challenges and opportunities. The Valley embraced a period of growth and recovery, whilst also experiencing some significant natural disasters including flooding and storms.

RESOLUTION 161121/8

Moved: Cr Robert Mustow

Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Richmond Valley Council 2020/2021 Annual Report.
2. In accordance with section 428 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, posts the Annual Report on Council's website and provides a link to the Minister for Local Government and the Office of Local Government.

CARRIED

14.2 END OF TERM REPORT**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Under the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines, Council is required to produce a report on its progress in implementing the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) during its term of office. The report must be tabled at the final meeting of the outgoing Council.

The End of Term Report provides an update to the Richmond Valley community on how the Council has progressed in achieving the objectives of the CSP and reflects on how effective the CSP has been in delivering desired outcomes for the community.

RESOLUTION 161121/9

Moved: Cr Robert Mustow

Seconded: Cr Stephen Morrissey

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the End of Term Report 2016 – 2021.
2. Notes that the End of Term Report 2016 – 2021 will be appended to Council's 2020/2021 Annual Report and submitted to the Minister for Local Government.

CARRIED

15 FINANCIAL REPORTS**15.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020/2021****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council adopted the audited financial statements for 2020/2021 at its Ordinary Meeting held 19 October 2021. At that Meeting, Council also resolved to present the audited financial statements and auditor's reports to the public at its November Ordinary Meeting. The presentation of these reports to the public is in accordance with section 419 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and is the final step in complying with the legislative requirements regarding annual financial reporting.

Council's auditor, Thomas, Noble and Russell (TNR) has expressed an 'unmodified opinion' on the financial statements. This means that it was of the opinion that the financial reports present fairly the financial position of Council as at 30 June 2021 and its financial performance and cash flows were presented in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other legislative requirements.

A Powerpoint presentation by Council's Auditor Thomas, Noble & Russell was provided to the meeting by Mr Adam Bradfield via audio link.

RESOLUTION 161121/10

Moved: Cr Stephen Morrissey

Seconded: Cr Jill Lyons

That the audited financial statements and auditor's reports for the 2020/2021 financial year be presented to the public in accordance with section 419 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

CARRIED

15.2 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - OCTOBER 2021**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the status and performance of its cash and investment portfolio in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* s.625, Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 cl.212, Australian Accounting Standard (AASB 9) and Council's Investment Policy.

The value of Council's cash and investments at 31 October 2021 is shown below:

Bank Accounts	Term Deposits	Floating Rate Notes	Fixed Rate Bonds	TCorp IM Funds	Total
\$15,429,119	\$25,000,000	\$4,750,390	\$2,000,000	\$15,458,644	\$62,638,153

The weighted average rate of return on Council's cash and investments for October 2021 was negative 1.17% which was below the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for October of 0.00%, which is Council's benchmark.

RESOLUTION 161121/11

Moved: Cr Robert Mustow

Seconded: Cr Sandra Humphrys

That Council adopts the Financial Analysis Report detailing the performance of its cash and investments for the month of October 2021.

CARRIED

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

17 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**RESOLUTION 161121/12**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons

Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

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

CARRIED

17.1 COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2021/2022 ROUND ONE**RESOLUTION 161121/13**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons

Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes the Community Financial Assistance Program 2021/2022 Round One allocations.

CARRIED

17.2 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT STATISTICS**RESOLUTION 161121/14**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons
Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes the Code of Conduct Complaint Statistics for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

CARRIED

17.3 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT FOR THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER 2021 TO 31 OCTOBER 2021**RESOLUTION 161121/15**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons
Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes the Development Application report for the period 1 October 2021 to 31 October 2021.

CARRIED

17.4 GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION REPORT - OCTOBER 2021**RESOLUTION 161121/16**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons
Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes the Grant Application Information Report for the month of October 2021.

CARRIED

17.5 CORRESPONDENCE - SHARK MANAGEMENT PLAN AND EVANS HEAD AMBULANCE STATION**RESOLUTION 161121/17**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons
Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes correspondence forwarded in relation to the Shark Management Program and Evans Head Ambulance Station.

CARRIED

17.6 CORRESPONDENCE - ROUS COUNTY COUNCIL'S FUTURE WATER PROJECT AND FAR NORTH COAST WATER SECURITY**RESOLUTION 161121/18**

Moved: Cr Jill Lyons

Seconded: Cr Robert Hayes

That Council receives and notes the correspondence received from the Hon Shelley Hancock MP and the Hon Melinda Pavey MP regarding the Rous Future Water Project and the independent review of Far North Coast water security.

CARRIED

18 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

19 QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING (IN WRITING)**19.1 AIRFORCE BEACH EVANS HEAD BEACH ACCESS SIGNAGE**

Cr Hayes requested additional, clearer signage be placed on Evans Head beaches prior to the Christmas holidays, particularly with regard to motorcycles, to ensure drivers/riders are aware of the restrictions.

The General Manager advised that consultation would occur with Council's regulatory team with regard to appropriate signage.

The Meeting closed at 6.16pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 January 2022.

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CHAIRPERSON