

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, 1 MARCH 2017, COMMENCING AT
6.30PM**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor R Pynsent (in the Chair) and Councillors Olsen, Doherty, Dunn, Fagg, Stapleford, Suvaal, Fitzgibbon, Gray, Dagg, Burke, Sander and Lyons.

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting General Manager (Director Corporate & Community Services)
Director Planning and Environment
Acting Director Corporate and Community Services (Chief Financial Officer)
Director Works and Infrastructure
Manager Governance and Business Services
Development Services Manager
Strategic Landuse Planning Manager
Media & Communication Officer
Consultant Development Engineer
Relief Executive Assistant

APOLOGY: **NIL**

MINUTES: **MOTION** **Moved:** Councillor Sander
Seconded: Councillor Gray
122
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 15 February 2017, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST NO. DI3/2017

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

That Councillors now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

PE4/2017 - DA8/2016/216/2 proposing to modify development consent 8/2016/216/1 which granted approval for a two lot subdivision. the application seeks to delete the requirement to seal the hall street road shoulder - Councillor Suvaal declared a Non Pecuniary Interest – Less than Significant Conflict for the reason that when the original DA came up, the map showed a property he owns in the far corner. Councillor Suvaal advised that he would remain in the Chamber and participate in discussion and voting as the conflict has not influenced him in carrying out his public duty because the property is a few blocks away and will not have any impact on his property.

PETITIONS

NIL

MAYORAL MINUTES

MAYORAL MINUTE NO. MM5/2017

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION BY COUNCIL TO SENATE ENQUIRY - PUBLIC GOVERNANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (LOCATION OF CORPORATE COMMONWEALTH ENTITIES) ORDER 2016

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Pynsent

123

RESOLVED

1. That Council make a submission to the Senate enquiry on the relocation of Corporate Commonwealth Entities.
2. That the General Manager prepare the submission and distribute to Councillors prior to the submission due date of 8 March 2017.
3. That Council, in its submission, make clear that it does not support the relocation of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicine Association (APVMA).

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	Councillor Doherty
Councillor Fagg	Councillor Dunn
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (11)	Total (2)

CARRIED

MOTIONS OF URGENCY

MOTIONS OF URGENCY NO. MOU3/2017

SUBJECT: MOTIONS OF URGENCY

NIL

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT NO. GMU1/2017

SUBJECT: AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR

MOTION Moved: Councillor Gray **Seconded:** Councillor Burke

That Council receives and notes the report on the appointment of the Chair of the Audit Committee.

AMENDMENT Moved: Councillor Olsen **Seconded:** Councillor Dunn

That Council defer the report until all eligible applications have been submitted to Councillors for review.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	Councillor Stapleford
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Suvaal
Councillor Dunn	Councillor Fitzgibbon
Councillor Fagg	Councillor Gray
	Councillor Dagg
	Councillor Burke
	Councillor Sander
	Councillor Lyons
	Councillor Pynsent
Total (4)	Total (9)

The Amendment was **PUT** and **LOST**

The Motion was then **PUT** and **CARRIED**

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Gray

Seconded: Councillor Burke

124

RESOLVED

That Council receives and notes the report on the appointment of the Chair of the Audit Committee.

FOR

Councillor Stapleford
Councillor Suvaal
Councillor Fitzgibbon
Councillor Gray
Councillor Dagg
Councillor Burke
Councillor Sander
Councillor Lyons
Councillor Pynsent
Total (9)

AGAINST

Councillor Olsen
Councillor Doherty
Councillor Dunn
Councillor Fagg

Total (4)

CARRIED

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT NO. GMU2/2017

SUBJECT: LG NSW TOURISM CONFERENCE - ATTENDANCE REQUEST

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Gray **Seconded:** Councillor Burke
125
RESOLVED

That Council endorse Councillor Fagg's attendance to the 2017 LG NSW Tourism Conference to be held in Taree from 12-14 March 2017.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE4/2017

SUBJECT: SECTION 96(1A) APPLICATION PROPOSING TO MODIFY DEVELOPMENT CONSENT 2016/216 WHICH GRANTED APPROVAL FOR A TWO LOT SUBDIVISION. THE APPLICATION SEEKS TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT TO SEAL THE HALL STREET ROAD SHOULDER

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Fitzgibbon **Seconded:** Councillor Dagg
126
RESOLVED

That Council determine the Section 96(1A) Application (8/2016/216/2) proposing to modify Development Consent 8/2016/216/1, seeking to delete the requirement to seal the Hall Street road shoulder, pursuant to Section 96(1A) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, by granting consent.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (12)	Total (1)

CARRIED

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE5/2017

SUBJECT: HERITAGE LISTING PROCESS FOR WOLLOMBI PUBLIC SCHOOL (FORMER)

PROCEDURAL MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Stapleford
 Seconded: Councillor Dunn

127
RESOLVED

That Council defer the report for at least six weeks.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Doherty	Councillor Olsen
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (12)	Total (1)

CARRIED

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE6/2017

SUBJECT: COUNCIL SUBMISSION TO PLANNING LEGISLATION UPDATE

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Burke **Seconded:** Councillor Gray
128

RESOLVED

That Council endorse the submission regarding proposed amendments to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and submit it to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment by 10 March 2017.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI4/2017

SUBJECT: BRANXTON POOL - HEATING UPGRADE

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Dagg **Seconded:** Councillor Sander
129

RESOLVED

1. That Council install gas heat pumps at Branxton Greta Memorial Baths and fund operational costs to the value of \$18,000.
2. That the capital cost of the purchase and installation be taken from the Huntlee VPA Contribution.
3. That a report come back at the end of 2017/18 period outlining costs.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Olsen	
Councillor Doherty	
Councillor Dunn	
Councillor Fagg	
Councillor Stapleford	
Councillor Suvaal	
Councillor Fitzgibbon	
Councillor Gray	
Councillor Dagg	
Councillor Burke	
Councillor Sander	
Councillor Lyons	
Councillor Pynsent	
Total (13)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ26/2017

SUBJECT: CONSULTANT COSTS

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ27/2017

SUBJECT: CASUAL RV STOP OVER AT JOHNS PARK, BRANXTON

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ28/2017

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FROM ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER ON LOCAL FIRE STATIONS

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ29/2017

SUBJECT: AMENITIES IN 7-ELEVEN SERVICE STATIONS

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ30/2017

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF OLD CESSNOCK CITY BOWLING CLUB SITE

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ31/2017

SUBJECT: COUNCIL'S POLICY ON VERGE MAINTENANCE

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ32/2017

SUBJECT: RECREATIONAL NEEDS - HANDBALL COURTS

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ33/2017

SUBJECT: MONEY SPENT ON CONTRACTORS FOR COUNCIL ROADS

The answer was noted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING NO. AQ34/2017

SUBJECT: REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE FAILURE OF MOUNT VIEW ROAD

The answer was noted.

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillor Anne Sander

GREEN WASTE FEES

Have Council officers costed a green waste component into the current fees and charges for dumping of green waste at the waste depot now that the green waste collection will be operational from 6 March 2017?

Councillor Anne Sander

ABANDONED VEHICLES

Can council investigate a better solution to abandoned vehicles on road verges and in CBD areas?

Councillor Ian Olsen

CINEMA CAR PARK

Car park is in very poor condition and line marking is non-existent. Can Council have the holes filled and car park remarked.

Councillor Ian Olsen

ROADWORK COMPLETION BY CONTRACTORS

Is it Labor's plan to gradually transfer all roadworks to contractors without putting it to tender, allowing Council staff the opportunity to quote for this work and maintain employment? If not, can the Mayor explain why so much is being spent on private contractors? Also, from the 2014/15 budget to this financial year, our staff have reduced the amount of work Council will do from \$22 million to \$14 million. Have any Council staff lost their jobs and if not, what are they doing, considering we have \$8 million of 37 percent of previous budgets less for them to spend on roadworks?

Councillor Mark Lyons

PAINTING OF GATEWAY SIGN AT LAGUNA

Council has employed a local artist to paint the gateway sign at Laguna. Could information be provided on who was commissioned and the details relating to the work the artist was commissioned to complete?

Councillor Mark Lyons

ROLLOUT OF SEWER IN LGA

Could information be provided relating to the priority list for rollout of sewer to townships in the Cessnock Local Government Area?

Councillor Di Fitzgibbon

CONTAINER COLLECTION SCHEME

Could Council officers keep Councillors informed of any details they receive regarding the Container Collection Scheme which is due to be rolled out in December 2017?

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor Dunn

Meeting with The Hon. Catherine Cusack, Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter

The Hon. Catherine Cusack, Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter visited the LGA on 9 February 2017 and met with Mayor Pynsent and Cessnock Council General Manager Stephen Glen. After that meeting, Ms Cusack met with Councillors Dunn, Doherty and Fagg. Since then, she has been in constant communication. On Tuesday 14 March 2017 at 3.30 pm, Ms Cusack will be making herself available at the former Wollombi School site to meet with anyone in the community regarding the process involving that site moving to community title.

Councillor Gray

Hydro Consultative Committee Meeting

Attended Hydro Consultative Committee on 16 February 2017. Power supply is now connected, contamination cell design is still being completed, the liner is in testing phase and complete – waiting to be reported on. Rezoning of the land has not progressed as they are waiting for flood studies. The cap waste stockpile is going to be progressively mined and transferred to containment cells once it has been set up. Non-recyclable items will be transferred into the containment cell. The Contractor has been appointed and assigned to the Stage 4 section. Richard Brown will be organising a Council site visit in the future.

Further to Councillor Gray's report on a future site visit, Mayor Pynsent confirmed that a visit has been arranged for the afternoon of 15 March 2017, but he was unsure of the exact time.

Councillor Gray

Hunter New England Health Consultative Committee Meeting

Attended Hunter New England Health Consultative Committee Meeting on 28 February 2017. Kurri Kurri and Cessnock Hospitals are not on Hunter Health's agenda for closure. Tourism and Cessnock Correctional Centre expansion continue to put constant pressure on the services at the Hospitals. Doctor's rosters are proving to be a challenge to cover and the Emergency Department staff have all been upskilled to cover the situation. The ageing infrastructure requires upgrading, as one of the Hospitals is more than 103 years old, which will be very expensive. The accreditation for the new standards is now being prepared by the Hospital.

Councillor Gray

Bushfire Management Committee Meeting

Attended the Bushfire Management Committee on 1 March 2017. Discussion revolved around the possibility of extending the fire season due to the excessive heat which has occurred, but has been put off because of recent rain. The need for hazard reduction burning has been reduced due to the recent fires around Racecourse Road, Neath and Kurri Kurri.

They are currently working on a Risk Management Plan, and a Communication Strategy is being prepared to go on exhibition around 15 March 2017.

Barraba Lane is identified as a priority for hazard reduction burning by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Councillor Gray thanked the RFS on behalf of Cessnock Council and all Cessnock LGA residents for the amazing work they performed over the summer months.

Councillor Dagg

Hunter Water Consultative Committee Meeting

Attended the Hunter Water Consultative Committee on 28 February 2017. Dr Jim Bentley, the new Managing Director of Hunter Water spoke on Hunter Water’s new initiative and new strategic direction, incorporating the State Government’s vision for the region as per the Hunter Regional Plan. Dr Bentley indicated that simply providing safe, reliable water services is no longer efficient going forward. With the expected population growth in the region of 100,000 over the next 20 years, they are already recognising the changing needs and expectations of the community. They want a service that encompasses the technological changes and managing climate change and water sustainability. Hunter Water are leading by example by focussing on the efficiency of their own networks.

Councillor Dagg spoke with Victor Prasad of Hunter Water, specifically regarding North Rothbury and sewerage connection, and he indicated that Hunter Water would like to organise to brief Councillors on moving forward with this project.

The Meeting Was Declared Closed at 7.10 pm

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED at the meeting held on 15 March 2017

.....**CHAIRPERSON**

.....**GENERAL MANAGER**