



**Date: Friday, 23 February 2024**

**Time: 10:00 AM**

**Location: Brewarrina Shire Council  
57 Bathurst Street  
Brewarrina NSW 2839**

# **MINUTES**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**23 February 2024**

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**MINUTES OF BREWARRINA SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE BREWARRINA SHIRE COUNCIL, 57 BATHURST STREET, BREWARRINA NSW  
2839  
ON FRIDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Vivian Slack-Smith (Mayor), Cr Angelo Pippos (Deputy Mayor), Cr Mark Brown, Cr Trish Frail, Cr Douglas Gordon, Cr Isaac Gordon, Cr Donna Jeffries, Cr Noel Sheridan, Cr Tommy Stanton

**IN ATTENDANCE:** David Kirby (General Manager), Arianne Tan (EA to General Manager)

**1 OPENING PRAYER & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

2 Apologies/Leave of Absence

**APOLOGY**

**RESOLVED 001/24**

**Moved: Cr Douglas Gordon**

**Seconded: Cr Trish Frail**

**That the apology received from Cr Tommy Stanton be accepted and leave of absence granted.**

**The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED**

3 Declaration of Interest

Cr Donna Jeffries declared a non-pecuniary – insignificant conflict to Item Brewarrina Swimming Pool.

Cr Douglas Gordon declared a pecuniary interest to Item Brewarrina Swimming Pool.

Cr Isaac Gordon declared a pecuniary interest to Item Brewarrina Swimming Pool.

**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**


**MOTION**

Moved: Cr Mark Brown

Seconded: Cr Donna Jeffries

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 covered by resolutions 159/23 to 168/23 action request be adopted.

  
GENERAL MANAGER

  
MAYOR

**5 MAYORAL MINUTE****5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE****PURPOSE**

The aim of this Mayoral Minute is to propose an initiative for enhancing the security of Brewarrina by installing surveillance cameras at critical locations around the town, as soon as possible. This includes all major entry and exit points, such as Gongolgon Road's entry, and along the main street. The project will be carried out in close consultation with the local police force, who will also provide guidance on the strategic placement of these cameras to maximise their effectiveness.

**CONTENT**

In response to community concerns regarding safety and in recognition of the potential benefits of surveillance technology, this initiative seeks to proactively address security issues in Brewarrina. By installing cameras at key points around the town, particularly at all entry and exit points, we aim to deter criminal activity and provide valuable assistance to the local police force in their investigative and preventive efforts.

The decision to consult closely with the police ensures that we benefit from their knowledge of local crime patterns and their expertise in surveillance operations. This partnership approach will enable us to identify the most critical areas for surveillance, thereby ensuring an efficient and effective security infrastructure.

This project not only aims to reduce crime but also to enhance the community's sense of safety, contributing to Brewarrina's overall well-being. With the council's approval, we can proceed with this vital project, demonstrating our commitment to maintaining and improving public safety in our town..

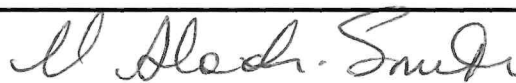
**RESOLVED 002/24****Moved: Cr Trish Frail****Seconded: Cr Douglas Gordon****That Councillors;**

- 1. Support the proposal for installing security cameras at key locations around Brewarrina, including all town entry and exit points and along the main street as a matter of urgency.**
- 2. Delegate the General Manager to work in consultation with local police to identify critical areas for camera installation, ensuring the initiative aligns with overarching community safety goals.**
- 3. Authorise the allocation of necessary funds from the current budget for the project's preliminary phase, with a comprehensive plan and budget details to be presented at the subsequent council meeting.**
- 4. Form a steering committee, comprising council representatives and local police, to guide the project's execution, guaranteeing transparency, accountability, and active community involvement.**

**The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED**



GENERAL MANAGER



MAYOR

**6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Nil

**7 REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR ACTION****7.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT****PURPOSE**

The Purpose of this report is to present the reconciliation of Council's cashbook and bank statement as at 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023.

**RESOLVED 003/24**

Moved: Cr Noel Sheridan

Seconded: Cr Angelo Pippos

That;

1. The bank reconciliation report is received as information.
2. The Certification of the Responsible Account Officer for compliance with the Investment Policy and the Ministerial Investment Order dated 28 April 2017 be received and noted.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**7.2 COUNCIL MONTHLY REPORT – JAN 2024****PURPOSE**

The Purpose of this report is to present the reconciliation of Council's cashbook and bank statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2024.

**RESOLVED 004/24**

Moved: Cr Noel Sheridan

Seconded: Cr Angelo Pippos

That;

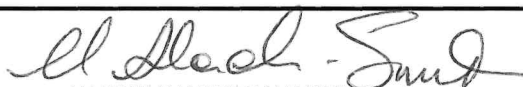
1. The bank reconciliation report is received as information.
2. The Certification of the Responsible Account Officer for compliance with the Investment Policy and the Ministerial Investment Order dated 28 April 2017 be received and noted

.The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

<b>7.3</b>	<b>QUARTERLY</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>REVIEW</b>	<b>STATEMENT</b>
	<b>2ND QUARTER 2023/2024</b>			



GENERAL MANAGER



MAYOR

**PURPOSE**

The Purpose of this report is to submit to Council a report detailing the variances to the budget for the 2023/2024 financial year as presented in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

**RESOLVED 005/24**

Moved: Cr Angelo Pippos  
Seconded:Cr Isaac Gordon

That Councillors;  
Receive this report as information.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**7.4 LOAN # 63 - TO RENEW OR TO PAYOFF**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to gain Council’s approval to pay off the loan # 63.


**RESOLVED 006/24**

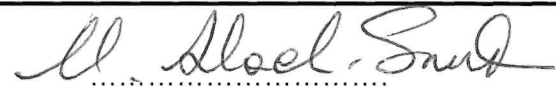
Moved: Cr Trish Frail  
Seconded:Cr Angelo Pippos

That Councillors;  
Endorse the action taken option 1 to pay off Loan # 63 at 8 April 2024 when the current 5 years fixed interest arrangement expires. This will save Council over \$66,000 interest payment over seven years.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**7.5 IPART DETERMINATION OF RATE PEG FOR 2024/25**

  
GENERAL MANAGER

  
MAYOR

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to gain Council’s approval to apply full rate peg 4.5% for fiscal year 2024/25.

**RESOLVED 007/24**

**Moved: Cr Angelo Pippos  
Seconded:Cr Mark Brown**

That;

- 1. The Rate Pegging report is received as information.
- 2. That Council apply the 3.5% general pegging to its General Rate Income for the 2024/25 rating year.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

**7.6 INVESTMENT POLICY - MINOR AMENDMENT**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to review and update the Council’s Investment Policy to ensure that it complies with current requirements and maintains proper stewardship over the management of Council’s short and medium term financial investment.

**RESOLVED 008/24**

**Moved: Cr Trish Frail  
Seconded:Cr Douglas Gordon**

That Councillors adopt the Investment Policy – Minor Amendment.


The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

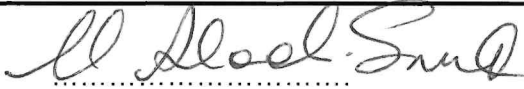
**7.7 BREWARRINA CARAVAN PARK**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on activities related to the Brewarrina Caravan Park and intended future use.

**RESOLVED 009/24**  
**Moved: Cr Douglas Gordon**  
**Seconded:Cr Angelo Pippos**  
**That**  
**1.Council resolve to prepare further costing report in regards to caravan park based on**

  
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MAYOR

emergency accommodation.

2. Further costing report to be tabled to council.

3. Prepare costing on Brewarrina Showground carpark with installation of electricity, and a bituminous surface car park.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

#### 7.8 RMCC PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTERS 3&4

##### PURPOSE

To provide Council with an update of the Transport for NSW RMMC Performance reports in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

**RESOLVED 010/24**

**Moved: Cr Trish Frail**

**Seconded: Cr Angelo Pippas**

**That Council resolve to receive this report as information**

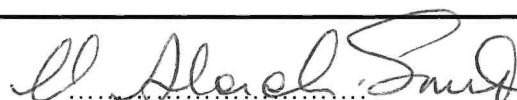
The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

## 8 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

### 8.1 GENERAL MANAGER DIARY



GENERAL MANAGER



MAYOR



**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of meetings and functions attended during the reporting period.

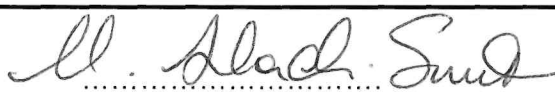
**GENERAL MANAGER ACTIVITY**

- 19th December: Brewarrina Projects Check-In.
- 21st December: Central West Orana and Far West Regional Recovery Committee Meeting.
- 27th December: Monthly Meeting with DRNSW - Brewarrina Shire Council.
- 11th January: Meeting with Jenny Aitchison, Minister.
- 24th January: Discussion on Brewarrina Aboriginal Fishtraps Lookout & River Walk Project
- 25th January: Australia Day Eve Event.
- 26th January: Australia Day Event.
- 31st January: NSW Telco Meeting.
- 2nd February: AWC GMAC Meeting; Severe Weather Pre-Event Briefing. Attended Western Alliance General Managers meeting in Narromine; discussed cybersecurity, investment policies, and RFS Red Fleet issues.
- 4th February: Interagency Severe Weather Briefing.
- 6th February: Brewarrina Project Meeting RNSW817.
- 7th February: LEMC LRC Meeting.
- 8th February: Project Information Catch-Up with Randall Medd.
- 9th February: BROCC Meeting; discussed threats like Fire Ants and Services Mapping; noted the benefits of membership.
- 10th February: Visit by Ashley Welinga to Brewarrina Tour De Oroc.
- 12th February: Presentation of Asset Accounting System MAG.
- 13th February: Bohda Ltd Long Overdue Debt Discussion; Brewarrina FLR Projects.

**8.2 MAYOR DIARY****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of meetings and functions attended during the reporting period.

  
GENERAL MANAGER

  
MAYOR

**8.3 STATUS REPORT****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with a summary status report.

**8.4 TRANSPORT - INFORMATION REPORT****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on various road maintenance and construction activities in the previous month and provide a work program for the coming period.

**8.5 UTILITIES INFORMATION REPORT****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the status, as at, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 of all works in Utilities Section. The report is based on the 2023/ 2024 financial year.

**8.6 ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING, HEALTH AND BUILDING - INFORMATION REPORT****PURPOSE****Discussion Regarding Planning Constraints and Possible Options.**

To make Council aware of some of the Planning constraints in relation to current zones and options to utilise State Environmental Planning Policies – Variation of Standards option and re-consider current zone constraints in and around the various communities.

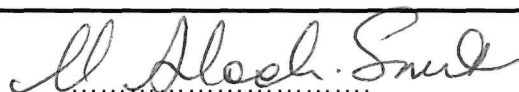
It is proposed that there be a brief question and answer session with Councillors and staff at the meeting to ensure Councillors are aware of some constraints and issue to re-consider what changes (if any) might be desirable to our zoning maps and constraints that apply within those zones.

For example, there is a strong case for an Industrial zone in Brewarrina and perhaps even a more restrictive control of Commercial developments which has historically been able to utilise virtually any parcel of land zoned RU5 (Village). In fact, that historical option has ensured that community facilities and services have been able to utilise older buildings (often old houses) and vacant lots for a practical use, rather than remaining vacant. Add the general shortage of satisfactory residential premises throughout the Shire, that utilisation of residential property for Commercial uses could be viewed as counterproductive.

Some of the constraints such as massive areas requirements for Community Title/Multiple Occupancy are unrealistic and again counterproductive.

**8.7 HUMAN RESOURCES**

GENERAL MANAGER



MAYOR

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council on Human Resources current positions vacant and training that will be ongoing throughout 2024.

**8.8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER REPORT****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of the progression of the projects and programs.

**8.9 CORRESPONDENCE****PURPOSE**

For Councillors to receive the items for Correspondence.

**RESOLUTION****RESOLVED 011/24**

**Moved: Cr Trish Frail**

**Seconded: Cr Mark Brown**

That Councillors;

Receive Item 8.1 to 8.9 in the Reports for Information Section as information.

For Item 8.9, the council is to write a letter of thanks to the Environmental Defenders Office

**.The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED**

**9 NOTICE OF MOTION / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE****9.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING**

I, Councillor Donna Jeffries, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 23 February 2024, I intend to move the following motion:

**RESOLVED 012/24**

**Moved: Cr Donna Jeffries**

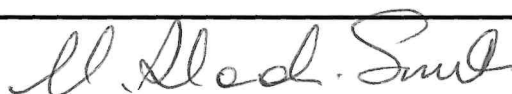
**Seconded: Cr Douglas Gordon**

**That;**

**Brewarrina Shire Council reintroduce the agenda item 'Questions for Next Meeting' to the Code of Meeting Practice.**



GENERAL MANAGER



MAYOR

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

## 9.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL COMMITTEES

I, Councillor Trish Frail, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 23 February 2024, I intend to move the following motion:

**RESOLVED 013/24**

**Moved: Cr Angelo Pippas**

**Seconded: Cr Mark Brown**

**That Council;**

- 1) Emphasise the importance of transparency and accountability in preparation for the upcoming elections.**
- 2) Propose the establishment of regular communication channels among Councillors for sharing committee updates.**
- 3) Prioritise the provision of comprehensive reports to constituents detailing committee efforts and outcomes.**
- 4) Commit to actively engage with fellow Councillors and the community to ensure transparent and effective fund allocation efforts aligned with constituents' needs.**

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

## 9.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL CLOSED MEETINGS & INSURANCE MATTERS

I, Councillor Trish Frail, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 23 February 2024, I intend to move the following motion:

**RESOLVED 014/24**


**Moved: Cr Trish Frail**

**Seconded: Cr Isaac Gordon**

- 1) That Insurance in Brewarrina is escalating with two major issues,**
  - I. Draft letter to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and Local Member Mark Coulton requesting formal feedback regarding Insurance premiums in Brewarrina Shire and the thresholds of the premium fee structure.**
  - II. Council liaise with NSW Fire Bridge to help promote their Smoke Alarm Assistance program in Brewarrina.**

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

  
GENERAL MANAGER

  
MAYOR

## 10 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

**RESOLVED 015/24**

**Moved: Cr Isaac Gordon**

**Seconded: Cr Donna Jeffries**

**That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:**

**10.1 Closed Session - Evaluation Report - Provision of Design Services**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i), d(ii) and d(iii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council and information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret.**

**10.2 Closed Session - Evaluation Report - Provision of Surveying Services**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i), d(ii) and d(iii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council and information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret.**

**10.3 Environment, Planning, Health and Building Information Report**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a, d(i), d(iii), f and g of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors), commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret, details of systems and/or arrangements that have been implemented to protect council, councillors, staff and Council property and advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.**

**10.4 Environment, Planning, Health and Building Information Report**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(iii) and f of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret and details of systems and/or arrangements that have been implemented to protect council, councillors, staff and Council property.**

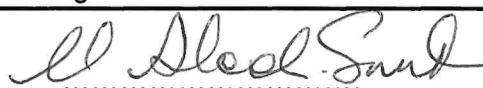
**The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED**

**Meeting moved into closed session at 12:03pm**

At 1:15pm, Cr Douglas Gordon, Cr Donna Jeffries, and Cr Isaac Gordon left the meeting due to conflict of interest with the Brewarrina Swimming Pool.



GENERAL MANAGER



MAYOR

RESOLVED 016/24

Moved: Cr Noel Sheridan

Seconded: Cr Trish Frail

That Council moves into open session.

The MOTION upon being PUT to the MEETING was declared CARRIED

Meeting resumed open session at 1:39pm

11 OPEN SESSION

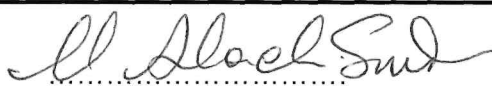
Nil

12 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

Meeting concluded at 1:41pm

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GENERAL MANAGER

  
MAYOR