

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

15 July 2025

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON TUESDAY, 15 JULY 2025 AT 2PM**

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the meeting opened at **2pm** and welcomed Councillors, Council Officers, media, and those following via livestreaming. Advice was provided of Council's Work, Health and Safety (WHS) Evacuation Plan and locations of amenities.

Present

Mayor Cr Neville Kschenka OAM, Deputy Mayor Cr Sue Ruffles, Cr Bob Manning, Cr Jenny Clarke OAM, Cr Cameron Rouse, Cr Peter Dawson, Cr Cameron Lander, Cr Braden Lyons, Cr Tracey Lewis

In Attendance

George Cowan (General Manager), Shane Wilson (Deputy General Manager Infrastructure), Stacie Mohr (Acting Deputy General Manager Corporate Community), Vicki Maher (Executive Assistant), Melissa Johnson (Minute Taker).

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor read the following Acknowledgement of Country.

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to their people both past and present and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

3 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 APPLICATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

No requests to join via audio-visual link in **July**.

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Mayor reminded Councillors and Council Officers of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Councillors and Council Officers to disclose any such interests:

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**RESOLUTION 25/127**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Sue Ruffles

Seconded: Cr Peter Dawson

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

7.1 MAYOR REPORT - JUNE AND JULY 2025

RESOLUTION 25/128

Moved: Mayor Cr Neville Kschenka

Seconded: Cr Tracey Lewis

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Mayor Report for June and July 2025.

CARRIED

7.2 MAYOR MINUTE - COST SHIFTING ONTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLUTION 25/129

Moved: Cr Jenny Clarke OAM

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Cr Sue Ruffles

That Council:

1. Notes the findings of the LGNSW Cost Shifting Report for the 2023-24 financial year; and
2. Places a copy of the Cost Shifting Report on Council's website so our communities can access it; and
3. Writes to the Premier, the NSW Treasurer and the NSW Minister for Local Government seeking that they urgently address these costs through a combination of regulatory reform and appropriate funding.

CARRIED

8 NOTICES OF MOTION AND QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR MANNING - ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS / FUTURE HOUSING

RESOLUTION 25/130

Moved: Cr Bob Manning

Seconded: Cr Jenny Clarke OAM

That Council:

1. Meets with local Indigenous / Aboriginal Elders with a view to meeting with the relevant NSW State Minister to release vacant land around Narrandera from Aboriginal Land Claims.

WITHDRAWN

After discussion and with concurrence from the seconder, Cr Manning withdrew the

motion.

9 REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS

Nil

10 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

10.1 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - MINUTES - 10 JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 25/131

Moved: Cr Jenny Clarke OAM

Seconded: Cr Cameron Lander

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee held on Tuesday 10 June 2025.
2. Endorses the Committee's recommendation:
 - a. To continue with the merger arrangements of Leeton and Narrandera Local Emergency Management Committee.

CARRIED

10.2 GRONG GRONG COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES - 26 MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 25/132

Moved: Cr Tracey Lewis

Seconded: Cr Bob Manning

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Minutes of the Grong Grong Community Advisory Committee held on Monday 26 May 2025.

CARRIED

10.3 KOALA REGENERATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES - 10 JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 25/133

Moved: Cr Jenny Clarke OAM

Seconded: Cr Braden Lyons

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Minutes of the Koala Regeneration Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 10 June 2025.

2. Acknowledge the lifelong contribution to the environment and in particular the Koala colony in Narrandera made by Lindsay Hayes who had recently passed.

CARRIED

10.4 RAILWAY STATION FACILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES - 29 MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 25/134

Moved: Cr Bob Manning

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Cr Sue Ruffles

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Minutes of the Railway Station Facility Advisory Committee held on Thursday 29 May 2025.

CARRIED

11 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

11.1 RISK APPETITE STATEMENTS

RESOLUTION 25/135

Moved: Cr Cameron Lander

Seconded: Cr Cameron Rouse

That Council:

1. Endorses the recommendation to amend Council's Risk Appetite Statements.
2. Adopts the revised Risk Appetite Statements.
3. Endorses presentation of the adopted Risk Appetite Statements to ARIC for review.

CARRIED

11.2 POLICY REVIEW - POL048 ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL LAND

RESOLUTION 25/136

Moved: Cr Tracey Lewis

Seconded: Cr Bob Manning

That Council:

1. Endorses the revised POL048 Acquisition and Disposal of Council Land Policy as presented for the purpose of public exhibition seeking community comment for a period of 28 days.
2. Subject to the Policy being further amended to include appropriate clauses to

describe expected outcomes in terms of the nature of proposed development and agreed time frames – to prevent land banking.

3. Deems the revised POL048 Acquisition and Disposal of Council Land Policy as adopted should no submissions be received from the community at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

CARRIED

12 REPORTS OF THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

12.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 25/137

Moved: Cr Tracey Lewis

Seconded: Cr Jenny Clarke OAM

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Monthly Financial Performance Report for the month of June 2025, as detailed in this report.

CARRIED

12.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 25/138

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Sue Ruffles

Seconded: Cr Cameron Rouse

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Statement of Investments as at 30 June 2025

CARRIED

13 REPORTS OF THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

13.1 POLICY REVIEW - POL174 BACKFLOW PREVENTION POLICY

RESOLUTION 25/139

Moved: Cr Tracey Lewis

Seconded: Cr Jenny Clarke OAM

That Council:

1. Endorses the draft POL174 Backflow Prevention Policy as presented for the purpose

of public exhibition seeking community comment for a period of 28 days.

2. Deems POL174 Backflow Prevention Policy as adopted should no submissions be received from the community at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

CARRIED

13.2 DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT SERVICES ACTIVITIES - JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 25/140

Moved: Cr Tracey Lewis

Seconded: Cr Peter Dawson

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Development Services Activities Report for June 2025.

CARRIED

14 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

15 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

16 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 2.50pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 August 2025.

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GENERAL MANAGER

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CHAIRPERSON