
Rous County Council

MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

11 December 2019

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Meeting commenced at 1.02pm.

In attendance:

Councillors

Keith Williams (Chair), Sharon Cadwallader (Deputy Chair), Basil Cameron, Darlene Cook, Vanessa Ekins, Sandra Humphrys, Robert Mustow and Simon Richardson.

Staff

Phillip Rudd (General Manager), Guy Bezrouchko (Group Manager Corporate and Commercial), Andrew Logan (Planning Manager), Helen McNeil (Group Manager People and Performance), Tom Lloyd (Group Manager Operations), Samantha Watkins (Procurement and Properties Coordinator), from 1.35pm: Ben Wilson (Risk and Compliance Coordinator) and Amy Cahill (Governance Officer), and Noeline Smith (minute taker).

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council showed its respect and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land, of all Elders, on which this meeting took place.

3. PUBLIC ACCESS

Marg Rann and Denise Whitney (Water 4 U / Whitney Plant Hire) and Danielle Le Compte (Water Please) were in attendance in relation to report Item 8. i) *Expansion of water fill station network.*

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

i). Ordinary Council meeting 22 October 2019 ⁽¹⁸²⁾

RESOLVED [88/19] (Cadwallader/Cook) that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held 22 October 2019 be confirmed as presented.

ii). Extraordinary Council meeting 20 November 2019

RESOLVED [89/19] (Cadwallader/Cook) that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held 20 November 2019 be confirmed as presented.

6. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

7. GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

Nil.

8. PLANNING MANAGER REPORTS

i). Expansion of water fill station network (496/19(2))

RESOLVED [90/19] (Mustow/Cadwallader) that Council:

1. Approve the installation of public access water fill stations at South Lismore and Bangalow for an estimated cost of \$90,000 excl. GST.
2. Approve the installation of two additional bulk water filling stations at North Lismore and Eureka / Bangalow for an estimated cost of \$60,000 excl. GST.

Cr Ekins temporarily left the meeting at 1.26pm.

9. GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL REPORTS

i). Retail water customer account assistance (2283/13)

RESOLVED [91/19] (Cadwallader/Humphrys) that Council in accordance with section 356 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and its 'Retail Water Customer Account Assistance' policy, approve financial assistance as listed in Table 1 of the report.

ii). Annual Financial Reports and Audit Report for the year ending 30 June 2019

RESOLVED [92/19] (Cameron/Cadwallader) that Council acknowledge that the audited 2018/19 Financial Reports were presented to the public and no submissions were received.

10. GROUP MANAGER PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Cr Ekins returned to the meeting at 1.29pm.

i). Council issued delegation: General Manager

RESOLVED [93/19] (Cadwallader/Cook) that Council approve the instrument of delegation for the position of General Manager, attached to the report.

Voting against: Cr Ekins

11. POLICIES

i). Policies for revocation (172/17)

Amendment

Moved (Cameron/Cadwallader) that Council:

1. Revoke the following policies attached to the report and any policy revived as a result of the revocation:

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- i). Bulk Water Supply policy (Rous);
 - ii). Richmond Hill 1(c) (ZONE) Contribution policy (Rous)
 - iii). Water Cycle Management Policy (Rous)
 - iv). Easement Creation policy (Rous)
 - v). Floodgate and Drainage Management Guidelines (RRCC)
 - vi). Public Access to Council Information (3 counties)

2. That in relation to policy “Public Access to Council Information”, Rous County Council’s website be updated with a brief description of open access, proactive and formal release information.

The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried and became the motion.

RESOLVED [94/19] (Cameron/Cadwallader) that Council:

1. Revoke the following policies attached to the report and any policy revived as a result of the revocation:
 - i). Bulk Water Supply policy (Rous);
 - ii). Richmond Hill 1(c) (ZONE) Contribution policy (Rous)
 - iii). Water Cycle Management Policy (Rous)
 - iv). Easement Creation policy (Rous)
 - v). Floodgate and Drainage Management Guidelines (RRCC)
 - vi). Public Access to Council Information (3 counties)
2. That in relation to policy “Public Access to Council Information”, Rous County Council’s website be updated with a brief description of open access, proactive and formal release information.

12. INFORMATION REPORTS

i). Information reports (1181)

RESOLVED [95/19] (Cadwallader/Mustow) that Council receive and note the following information reports:

1. Investments – November 2019
2. Water production and usage – October 2019 and November 2019
3. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee: meeting update
4. Annual ‘Model Code of Conduct Complaints Statistics’ report
5. Reports/actions pending, subject to inclusion of a future report being provided to Council on Perradenya cycleway.

13. CONFIDENTIAL

MOVE INTO CLOSED COUNCIL

RESOLVED [96/19] (Mustow/Humphrys) that Council move into Closed Council to consider the following matters and that members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting based on the grounds detailed below.

1. Report	Nightcap Water Treatment Plant – supply of bulk carbon dioxide
Grounds for closure	Section 10A(2)(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
Public interest	Public discussion would not be in the public interest due to disclosure of commercial information.
Report	Perradenya Estate Release 6 – marketing strategy
Grounds for closure	Section 10A(2)(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
Public interest	Public discussion would not be in the public interest due to disclosure of commercial information.

RESUME TO OPEN COUNCIL

RESOLVED [97/19] (Mustow/Cameron) that Council resume to Open Council.

The General Manager read to the meeting the following resolutions of Council:

i). Nightcap Water Treatment Plant – supply of bulk carbon dioxide (1095.5/19)

RESOLVED [98/19] (Cadwallader/Humphrys) that Council:

1. Noting the requirements of section 55(3)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, resolve that due to extenuating circumstances, being the absence of competitive or reliable tenderers for the periodic supply of bulk carbon dioxide and the rental or purchase of associated equipment, a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders.
2. Authorise staff to enter direct negotiations with suppliers, in relation to a contract for the periodic supply of bulk carbon dioxide and the rental or purchase of associated equipment for Nightcap Water Treatment Plant.
3. Authorise the General Manager to execute a contract on Council's behalf once negotiated.

ii). Perradenya Estate Release 6 – marketing strategy (2659.2)

RESOLVED [99/19] (Mustow/Cadwallader) that:

1. Council note the report and endorse the marketing strategy for Release 6 development at Perradenya.
2. The General Manager and Chair, in consultation with the appointed marketing agents, agree to the schedule of listed selling prices per lot, in total.
3. The General Manager be delegated authority to negotiate selling prices in accordance with the report.
4. The General Manager and Chair be delegated authority to affix Council's seal on documents in relation to the sale of Release 6 lots.

14. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

15. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

16. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.37pm.