



MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING

OF

GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD ON

19 SEPTEMBER 2023

PRESENT

Councillors

D Batten (Mayor)  
A Walker (Deputy Mayor)  
G Babbage  
A Bunter  
P Mann  
B Mockler  
N Mudford  
G Peart  
I Freeth

Employees

D Neeves  
General Manager  
N Alchin  
Director Growth and Liveability  
D Colwell  
Director Infrastructure  
M Welsh  
Executive Leader Transformational  
Change  
R Berryman  
Executive Assistant

Proceedings of the meeting commenced at 4:05pm.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

D Dobson – Director Aged Care and Disabilities

ADJOURNMENTS

NIL

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Mudford – *Local Heritage Fund 2022/23 Projects*. Cr Mudford's family member has submitted an application for funding under this program.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

<b>RESOLVED 163/23</b>	Cr Freeth/Cr Mann
That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 15 August 2023, which were circulated to members prior to this meeting, be hereby confirmed as a faithful record of the meeting referred to.	

Proceedings in Brief

Cr Batten as Mayor relinquished the Chair to the General Manager at 4:07pm.

(GO.CO.1)

**ELECTION OF MAYOR**

SUMMARY

To elect Council's Mayor for the forthcoming period.

Proceedings in Brief

Nominations were called and only one nomination, that of Cr Batten, was received. The General Manager/Returning Officer declared Cr Batten duly elected to the position of Mayor for the ensuing one year term.

(GO.CO.1)

**ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

SUMMARY

To elect Council's Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming period.

Proceedings in Brief

Nominations were called and only one nomination, that of Cr Walker was received. The General Manager/Returning Officer declared Cr Walker duly elected to the position of Deputy Mayor for the ensuing one year term.

Proceedings in Brief

Cr Batten assumed the Chair.

(GO.CO.1)

**MAYORAL MINUTE - 14/23**  
**MAYORAL COMMITMENTS**

SUMMARY

To advise of the Mayor's activities for the past month.

<b>RESOLVED 166/23</b>	Cr Batten
That the report be noted.	

(ED.PL.1)

**CASTLEREAGH RIVER SAND EXTRACTION PROJECT**

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## SUMMARY

To provide Council an update on the progress of the sand extraction project.

<b>RESOLVED 167/23</b>	Cr Walker/Cr Mann
1. That Council not proceed with calling tenders to undertake an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Sand Extraction and Castlereagh River Revitalisation project.	
2. That Council note the social value and economic development opportunity of such project to community and retain the project within long term strategic plans.	
3. That Council pursue or continue to look for a public operator to take over the project and begin the process with no more commitment of Council funding.	

### Proceedings in Brief

Cr Mudford and Mr Neil Alchin declared an interest and left the room at 4:15pm.

(GS.PG.1)

## **LOCAL HERITAGE FUND 2023/2024 PROJECTS**

### SUMMARY

To provide an assessment and recommendations for the 2023/24 Heritage Projects.

<b>RESOLVED 168/23</b>	Cr Mockler/Cr Mann
That the identified projects be supported for funding under the Local Heritage Fund small grants program.	

### Proceedings in Brief

Cr Mudford and Mr Neil Alchin returned to the meeting at 4:18pm having taken no part in discussion or voting.

(GO.CO.1)

## **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS**

### SUMMARY

To table disclosure of interest returns from Councillors and designated staff for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

<b>RESOLVED 169/23</b>	Cr Walker/Cr Peart
That Council note the tabling of disclosure of interest returns for Councillors and designated persons for the period ending 30 June 2023.	

(CM.PR.1)

**2023/24 CHRISTMAS CLOSE DOWN**

**SUMMARY**

To seek endorsement for a close down of operations at Christmas 2023/24.

<b>RESOLVED 170/23</b>	Cr Mudford/Cr Bunter
That Council endorse a shutdown of operations from close of business on Thursday, 21 December 2023 until usual opening/starting hours on Tuesday, 2 January 2024.	

(PE.GN.1)

**OUTDOOR STAFF ANNUAL PICNIC DAY**

**SUMMARY**

To advise of a request from the Outdoor Staff Picnic Committee to hold the annual picnic on Friday, 29 September 2023.

<b>RESOLVED 171/23</b>	Cr Bunter/Cr Peart
1. That Friday, 29 September 2023 be approved as Council's picnic day and Council declare a general shutdown.	
2. That Council make a donation of \$200 towards the picnic to be funded from the Contributions and Donations allocation.	

(PR.RC.1)

**GROWORX - UPDATE**

**SUMMARY**

To provide an update on progress with recruitment of Care Workers.

<b>RESOLVED 172/23</b>	Cr Bunter/Cr Mudford
1. That the increase in Care Workers being recruited under the Groworx program from 10 to 16 be endorsed.	
2. That Council support the option for a small group of locals to personally meet and welcome the new employees in Sydney.	

(CM.PR.1)

**Q31/23 - NDIS EXECUTIVE SERVICES REVIEW**

**SUMMARY**

To advise outcome of a recent quotation for an NIDS Executive Services Review of Orana Living.

<b>RESOLVED 173/23</b>	Cr Mann/Cr Babbage
That the engagement of Lake Social Enterprises Pty Ltd (trading as Lake Advisory) to undertake an NDIS Executive review of Orana Living be noted.	

(FM.FR.1)

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023**

**SUMMARY**

To advise Council of the completion of the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 and, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act (1993), obtain the necessary resolution to refer same to the auditor.

<b>RESOLVED 174/23</b>	Cr Mockler/Cr Babbage
That the financial statements be accepted by the Council and referred for audit.	

**Proceedings in Brief**

Mrs Kathryn Larkin, Project Manager Strategy and Collaboration, entered the room at 4:24pm.

(RC.EM.1)

**UNDER THE GUMS + GOIN' TO GIL FESTIVAL WEEKEND 2023**

**SUMMARY**

To advise of a project update for Under the Gums and the Goin' to Gil Festival Weekend, including projected budget overspend.

<b>RESOLUTION</b>	Cr Walker/Cr Babbage
That Council: 1. Note the Grant application for \$20,000 under NSW Government Regional Event Fund may not be supported by the new Labour State Government. 2. Note the possible budget over runs and that this be a consideration of the September quarterly budget review. 3. Note the progress for the Under the Gums and Goin' to Gil festival weekend.	

<b>AMENDMENT</b>	Cr Mann/Cr Mockler
That Council: 2. Note the possible budget over runs and that this be a consideration of the September quarterly budget review with emphasis on current economic development budget.	

The amendment was put and carried.

<b>MOTION</b>	Cr Mann/Cr Mockler
That Council: 2. Note the possible budget over runs and that this be a consideration of the September quarterly budget review with emphasis on current economic development budget.	

The motion was put and carried. The amendment became the motion.

<b>RESOLUTION 175/23</b>	Cr Mann/Cr Mockler
That Council: 4. Note the Grant application for \$20,000 under NSW Government Regional Event Fund may not be supported by the new Labour State Government. 5. Note the possible budget over runs and that this be a consideration of the September quarterly budget review with emphasis on current economic development budget. 6. Note the progress for the Under the Gums and Goin' to Gil festival weekend.	

(PE.GN.1)

### **AUDIT RISK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **SUMMARY**

To provide Council an update on the progress of the Audit Risk Improvement Committee (ARIC).

<b>RESOLVED 176/23</b>	Cr Mann/Cr Bunter
That Council note the Audit Risk Improvement Committee update.	

(CM.PR.1)

### **NEW POLICY – CHILD SAFE**

#### **SUMMARY**

To present a Child Safe Policy for consideration and adoption.

<b>RESOLVED 177/23</b>	Cr Mockler/Cr Babbage
That the new 'Child Safe' policy be adopted.	

(CM.PR.1)

### **NEW POLICY – CYBER SECURITY POLICY**

#### **SUMMARY**

To present a Cyber Security Policy for consideration and adoption.

<b>RESOLVED 178/23</b>	Cr Freeth/Cr Mudford
That the new 'Cyber Security' policy be adopted.	

### **MINUTES – COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR NOTATION**

#### **SUMMARY**

To present the following minutes of Committee meetings for notation:

<u>Interagency Committee</u>	24 August 2023
<u>Local Emergency Management Committee</u>	22 August 2023
<u>Traffic Committee</u>	23 August 2023

<b>RESOLVED 179/23</b>	Cr Freeth/Cr Bunter
That the minutes be noted.	

### **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND NOTATION**

#### **SUMMARY**

To present reports for information and notation.

<b>RESOLVED 180/23</b>	Cr Peart/Cr Mudford
That the reports be noted.	

### **PRECIS OF CATEGORY B CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **SUMMARY**

To pass on relevant information from correspondence received.

<b>RESOLVED 181/23</b>	Cr Walker/Cr Bunter
That receipt of the Category B Correspondence be noted.	

### **LISTING OF MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED COUNCIL**

<b>RESOLVED 182/23</b>	Cr Walker/Cr Bunter
That Council note the following matters to be listed as specified under Section 10(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Manager's Annual Leave</li><li>• Tender 34/23 Design and Construction of Baronne Creek Flood Mitigation Structures</li><li>• Gil Caravan Park Request for Rent Reduction</li></ul>	



- Digital Signage

<b>RESOLVED 183/23</b>	Cr Walker/Cr Bunter
<p>That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the matters to be considered in line with the confidentiality policy of Council and Section 10(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, relating to financial matters, staff matters, industrial matters, acceptance of tenders, personal affairs of private individuals, possible or pending litigation and such other matters considered appropriate at 4:37pm.</p>	

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

<u>CR BUNTER:</u>	<p><b><u>SMART WATER METERS</u></b></p> <p>I note with interest that Narromine Council has installed smart water meters throughout the shire. I understand that these meters are used by council to provide automatic reading. That record water use, provides the ability to electronically report water usage at regular intervals and provides instant access to data that can show leaks, sets alerts for unusual high usages, water theft, peak usage and other network information.</p> <p>Could a report be provided to a future meeting, to enable consideration of such expenditures in the 2024/25 budget process, relating to the costs and benefits of the introduction of smart water meters within Gilgandra Shire?</p>
<u>MAYORAL RESPONSE:</u>	<p>It was advised that Council has already allowed expenditure for such a system in the 2024/25 budget and is currently investigating the application of smart water meters within the Gilgandra LGA. However, a report will be presented to a future meeting.</p>
<u>CR PEART:</u>	<p><b><u>ROYAL FLYING DOCTORS SERVICE</u></b></p> <p>Could Council please request the Royal Flying Doctors Service to address Council at Council's October 2023 Workshop.</p>
<u>MAYORAL RESPONSE:</u>	<p>Council will request the Royal Flying Doctors Service to address Council at the next Council Workshop.</p>

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5:18PM.

Cr D Batten  
Mayor