



TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MINUTES

of the **Meeting of Tamworth Regional Council** held in the **Council Chambers**,
Lands Building, 25-27 Fitzroy Street, Tamworth

27 MAY 2025

**PAUL BENNETT
GENERAL MANAGER**

ORDINARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of Tamworth Regional Council held in the Council Chambers, Lands Building,
25-27 Fitzroy Street, Tamworth
TUESDAY 27 MAY 2025 at 6.30PM

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PRESENT: Cr Russell Webb (Mayor), Cr Jeff Budd, Cr Charles Impey, Cr Brendon North, Cr Matt Sharpham, Cr Marc Sutherland, Cr Stephen Mears, Cr Ryan Brooke

IN ATTENDANCE: The General Manager, Director Liveable Communities, Director Regional Services, Acting Director Water and Waste, Executive Manager Creative Communities and Experiences and Acting Executive Manager Strategy and Performance.

1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

An apology was announced as having been received from Cr Mark Rodda who is unable to attend the Meeting due to personal reasons.

Cr Rodda requested a leave of absence for the Ordinary Meeting of 10 June 2025 due to personal reasons.

Mayor Russell Webb Cr Rodda requested a leave of absence for the Ordinary Meeting of 10 June 2025 due to travel outside of the LGA.

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Brooke

That the apology be accepted and Cr Mark Rodda be granted leave of absence for the Meeting and a leave of absence be granted for the Ordinary Meeting of 10 June 2025.

That Mayor Russell Webb be granted a leave of absence for the Ordinary Meeting of 10 June 2025.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
7. Cr Matthew Sharpham
8. Cr Marc Sutherland
9. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST THE DECISION**

Nil

111/25 RESOLVED

2 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

3 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL**

MOTION

Moved Cr Budd/Cr Sharpham

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 13 May 2025, copies of which were circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the Meeting.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR** THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST** THE DECISION

Nil

112/25 RESOLVED

4 **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Cr Marc Sutherland declared a conflict of interested in item 6.1 “Notice of Motion – Aboriginal Case Study at Paradise Weir” of the Business Paper, for the reason that he participated in the Case Study. Cr Sutherland further declared that this was a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest and that he would remain in the Chamber and participate in the debate.

5 **MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil

6 **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Cr Marc Sutherland declared a conflict of interested in this item of the Business Paper, for the reason that he participated in the Case Study. Cr Sutherland further declared that this was a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest and that he would remain in the Chamber and participate in the debate.

6.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR MARC SUTHERLAND - ABORIGINAL CASE STUDY AT PARADISE WEIR

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr Brooke

That Council:

- (i) allocate the required staff resources to develop a draft action plan for the implementation of the Yarriin Culture Fish and Flows Galala Case Study, with grant funding to be sought for the implementation of the action plan; and
- (ii) seek opportunities to partner with tertiary institutions such as UNE, University of Newcastle and Charles Sturt University for the delivery of the identified outcomes.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

113/25 RESOLVED

OPEN COUNCIL REPORTS

7 ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

7.1 PROPOSED UPGRADE TO THE CURRENT CCTV SYSTEM

DIRECTORATE:

LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES

AUTHOR:

David Lightowler, Manager - Community Safety and Wellbeing

MOTION

Moved Cr Budd/Cr Sharpham

That in relation to the report "Proposed upgrade to the current CCTV system", Council:

- (i) endorse the recommendations made by the Community Safety Working Group on 27 March 2025;
- (ii) endorse the proposed upgrades to the CCTV network as per the consensus of the Councillor Workshop on 8 April 2025;
- (iii) that the works commence within 28 days; and
- (iv) ensure recurrent funding is built into future budgets for maintenance and upgrades.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

114/25 RESOLVED

8 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

8.1 FUTURE STARS PRO AM FIGHT NIGHT

DIRECTORATE: REGIONAL SERVICES
AUTHOR: Paul Kelly, Manager - Sports and Recreation
 Richard Willis, Sport and Recreation Development Officer

MOTION

Moved Cr Sharpham/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Future Stars Pro Am Fight Night”, Council approves a subsidy of \$9,040.00 for this event in line with Council’s Sport Event Subsidisation Policy.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION
1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Jeffrey Budd 3. Cr Charles Impey 4. Cr Stephen Mears 5. Cr Brendon North 6. Cr Matthew Sharpham 7. Cr Marc Sutherland 8. Cr Russell Webb	Nil

115/25 RESOLVED

8.2 TAMWORTH REGIONAL LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 7 MAY 2025

DIRECTORATE: REGIONAL SERVICES
AUTHOR: Graeme McKenzie, Manager - Strategy, Assets and Design
 Steven Marshall, Strategy, Assets and Design Engineer

MOTION

Moved Cr Budd/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report “Tamworth Regional Local Traffic Committee Meeting - 7 May 2025”, Council:

- approve the 2025 Young Drivers Expo and subsequent road closure of The Ringers Road between Longyard Drive and Jack Smyth Drive for the period of 1.00pm to 2:00pm daily from 26 - 29 August 2025;
- approve the NAIDOC march along Peel Street and White Street in Tamworth and its associated traffic impacts along adjoining streets, from 9:30am to 10.30am on 11 July 2025.
- approve the proposed ‘Level 3’ Combined Driving Event in Moonbi and associated traffic impacts, from 8.30am to 12.00pm on Sunday 8 June 2025;
- approve the proposed community march against Domestic and Family Violence (Walk a Mile in HER Shoes) to be held in Fitzroy Street, Tamworth from 12.00pm to 3.30pm on 16 May 2025;
- approve the installation of formalised car parking bays, a bus zone, a loading zone, and all associated signage as shown within the Treloar Tennis Club

signage and line marking plan; and

- (vi) approve the installation of a new barrier line (BL2) on Browns Lane from the Manilla Road intersection to the existing BL2 barrier line at Jarman Road and the installation of new edge lines (EL1) within the resealed sections.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

116/25 RESOLVED

9 GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY AND FINANCE

9.1 COUNCILLOR ANNUAL FEES FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

DIRECTORATE:

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

AUTHOR:

Lisa May, Coordinator Governance and Executive Services

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr North

That in relation to the report "Councillor Annual Fees for the 2025/2026 Financial Year", Council fix and determine the annual fee payable to Councillors and Mayor of Tamworth Regional Council for the 2025/2026 financial year effective from 1 July 2025, at the maximum allowable amount for a Regional Centre Council.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Matthew Sharpham
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

1. Cr Stephen Mears

117/25 RESOLVED

9.2 2024/2025 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENTS TO 31 MARCH 2025

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
AUTHOR: Sherrill Young, Manager - Financial Services
Michael Gould, Management Accountant

Reference: Item 9.4 to Ordinary Council 25 June 2024 - Minute No 148/24
Item 9.4 to Ordinary Council 22 October 2024 - Minute No 276/24

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report “2024/2025 Quarterly Budget Review Statements to 31 March 2025”, Council receive and note the report and related ANNEXURES.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

118/25 RESOLVED

9.3 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS APRIL 2025

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
AUTHOR: Sherrill Young, Manager - Financial Services
Hannah Allwood, Accountant

MOTION

Moved Cr Sharpham/Cr Mears

That in relation to the report “Council Investments April 2025”, Council fix and determine the annual fee payable to Councillors and Mayor of Tamworth Regional Council for the 2025/2026 financial year effective from 1 July 2025, at the maximum allowable amount for a Regional Centre Council.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

119/25 RESOLVED

9.4 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN 2024/2025 BUDGET VARIATION REPORT - APRIL 2025

DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

AUTHOR: Laura Mills, Corporate Accountant

Reference: Item to Ordinary Council 25 June 2024 - Minute No 148/24

MOTION

Moved Cr Impey/Cr Sutherland

That in relation to the report “Annual Operational Plan 2024/2025 Budget Variation Report - April 2025”, Council note and approve the variations to the existing budget as listed in ATTACHED refer ANNEXURE 1 to the report.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

120/25 RESOLVED

10 COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.1 TRIAL OF BULK MULCH SALES AT SELECTED RURAL TRANSFER STATIONS

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR: Doug Hughes, Manager - Waste & Resource Recovery

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Budd

That in relation to the report “Trial of Bulk Mulch Sales at Selected Rural Transfer Stations”, Council:

- (i) approve the implementation of a trial of bulk mulch sales at Barraba, Manilla and Nundle rural waste sites for the 2025/2026 financial year;
- (ii) consider the adoption of the proposed new pricing methodology and associated charge for mulch sales, being cubic metre sales, as part of Council’s adoption of Annual Fees and Charges for the 2025/2026 financial year; and
- (iii) request the Director Water and Waste to develop a report on the outcomes of the trial following completion.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

121/25 RESOLVED

11 REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

At 7.08pm, the Chairperson offered the opportunity to members of the public to make representations as to whether any part of the Council Meeting should not be considered in Closed Council.

The General Manager advised the Chairperson that no written public submissions or representations had been received as to whether or not part of the Meeting should be closed to the public. The Chairperson asked any members of the Council whether any part of the Council Meeting should not be considered in Closed Council.

MOTION

Moved Cr Budd/Cr North

That the confidential reports as listed be considered in a Meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**

THE DECISION

THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

122/25 RESOLVED

11.1 AELEC - WORKSHOP AND EQUIPMENT SHEDS

DIRECTORATE: CREATIVE COMMUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES

AUTHOR: Luke Stevenson, Asset & Overlay Manager

2 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (d)ii&(d)iii of the Local Government Act 1993 on the grounds that the matter and information is information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of Council and information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret.

11.2 T067-2025 - TRC ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT REGISTER 2025

DIRECTORATE: REGIONAL SERVICES

AUTHOR: George Shearman, Manager - Plant Fleet and Building Services

Sebastian Lees, Technical Officer - Plant and Supply

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (d)i of the Local Government Act 1993 on the grounds that

the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

11.3 TENDER T057/2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF NINE 6 x 4 WATER CART TRUCKS

DIRECTORATE: REGIONAL SERVICES

AUTHOR: George Shearman, Manager - Plant Fleet and Building Services

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (d)i of the Local Government Act 1993 on the grounds that the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

11.4 TENDER T094-2025 - GROUNDS MAINTENANCE FOR TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL WATER AND WASTE FACILITIES

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR: Daniel Coe, Manager - Water and Environmental Operations

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (d)i of the Local Government Act 1993 on the grounds that the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS

12.1 AELEC - WORKSHOP AND EQUIPMENT SHEDS

DIRECTORATE: CREATIVE COMMUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES

AUTHOR: Luke Stevenson, Asset & Overlay Manager

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report “AELEC - Workshop and Equipment Sheds”, Council request:

- (i) acknowledge the challenges AELEC staff face due to a gap in supporting infrastructure; and
- (ii) endorse the AELEC reserve as the appropriate funding method for the project as detailed in the body of this report

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

123/25 RESOLVED

12.2 T067-2025 - TRC ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT REGISTER 2025

DIRECTORATE:

REGIONAL SERVICES

AUTHOR:

George Shearman, Manager - Plant Fleet and Building Services

Sebastian Lees, Technical Officer - Plant and Supply

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

MOTION

Moved Cr Sharpham/Cr Mears

That in relation to the report "T067-2025 - TRC Asbestos Management Register 2025", Council:

- (i) award the contract to EHO Consulting Pty Ltd (ABN 49 620 205 192) for the amount found in ENCLOSED, refer to CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURE 1; and
- (ii) allow a contingency of \$10,000.00 excluding GST for additional testing of materials potentially containing asbestos.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

124/25 RESOLVED

12.3 TENDER T057/2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF NINE 6 x 4 WATER CART TRUCKS

DIRECTORATE:

REGIONAL SERVICES

AUTHOR:

George Shearman, Manager - Plant Fleet and Building Services

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

MOTION

Moved Cr Sharpham/Cr Mears

That in relation to the report "Tender T057/2025 Supply and Delivery of Nine 6 x 4 Water Cart Trucks", Council:

- (i) award the tender to the Brown and Hurley Group Pty Ltd – trading as Brown and Hurley Trucks (ABN 66 010 732 966) for the amount see ENCLOSED, refer CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURE 1;
- (ii) authorise fitment of aluminium bull bars instead of steel to all 9 trucks; and
- (iii) authorise disposal of the existing units by public auction.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd

Nil

3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

125/25 RESOLVED

12.4 TENDER T094-2025 - GROUNDS MAINTENANCE FOR TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL WATER AND WASTE FACILITIES

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE
AUTHOR: Daniel Coe, Manager - Water and Environmental Operations

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Budd

That in relation to the report "Tender T094-2025 - Grounds Maintenance for Tamworth Regional Council Water and Waste Facilities ", Council accept the conforming tender from AAA Lawn Maintenance at the rates detailed in the report.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
 THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
 THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

126/25 RESOLVED

13 RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Brooke

That Council move into Open Council.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
 THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
 THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd
3. Cr Charles Impey
4. Cr Stephen Mears
5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Matthew Sharpham
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

127/25 RESOLVED

At 7.13pm the Meeting moved back into Open Council.

In accordance with the Tamworth Regional Council Code of Meeting Practice, Section 14.21, the Chairperson provided a summary of the resolutions passed in Closed Council.

Closure: There being no further business the Ordinary Meeting of Council concluded at 7.13pm.

Cr Russell Webb, Chairperson

Tuesday, 10 June 2025

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Minutes