



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

22 JULY 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 22 JULY 2025 at 6.30PM

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PRESENT: Cr Russell Webb (Mayor), Cr Marc Sutherland, Cr Steve Mears, Cr Mark Rodda, Cr Brendon North, Cr Charles Impey and Cr Ryan Brooke

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

1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

An apology was announced as having been received from Cr Jeff Budd and Cr Matt Sharpham who is unable to attend the Meeting due to being on leave.

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Impey

That the apology be accepted and Cr Jeff Budd and Cr Matt Sharpham be granted leave of absence from the Meeting.

| COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION | | COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION | |
|--|--------------------|--|--|
| | | Nil | |
| 1. | Cr Ryan Brooke | | |
| 2. | Cr Charles Impey | | |
| 3. | Cr Stephen Mears | | |
| 4. | Cr Brendon North | | |
| 5. | Cr Mark Rodda | | |
| 6. | Cr Marc Sutherland | | |
| 7. | Cr Russell Webb | | |

166/25 **RESOLVED**

2 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Mears

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 8 July 2025, copies of which were circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the Meeting save and except for the Amendment at Item 7.2 where (iii) should read “Considers that Council recognises that the strategic civic value of the former athletics track and includes in its considerations the options for the retention of the land by Tamworth Regional Council.”

167/25 **RESOLVED**

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

5 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

6 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

OPEN COUNCIL REPORTS

7 ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

Nil

8 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

8.1 PEEL RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

DIRECTORATE:

WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR:

Daniel Coe, Manager - Water and Environmental Operations

Reference:

Item 8.2 to Ordinary Council 11 April 2023 - Minute No 72/23

Item 6.1 to Ordinary Council 27 May 2025 - Minute No 113/25

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr Brooke

That in relation to the report “Peel River Environmental Improvements”, Council:

- (i) receive and note the report;
- (ii) allocate \$40,000 from the General Fund Reserve for the removal of the former Jewry Street Causeway: and
- (iii) request the Director Water and Waste allocate staff resources to the project as detailed in the report and provide further updates to Council as appropriate.

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

- 1. Cr Ryan Brooke
- 2. Cr Charles Impey
- 3. Cr Stephen Mears
- 4. Cr Brendon North
- 5. Cr Mark Rodda
- 6. Cr Marc Sutherland
- 7. Cr Russell Webb

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

- Nil

168/25 RESOLVED

8.2 TAMWORTH WATER NETWORK LEAK DETECTION PROGRAM

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

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Brooke

That in relation to the report “Tamworth Water Network Leak Detection Program”, Council receive and note the report.

| OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION | OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION |
|---|--|
| 1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Charles Impey 3. Cr Stephen Mears 4. Cr Brendon North 5. Cr Mark Rodda 6. Cr Marc Sutherland 7. Cr Russell Webb | Nil |

169/25 RESOLVED

8.3 IPART's DETERMINATION OF WATER NSW'S AND THE WATER ADMINISTRATION MINISTERIAL CORPORATION'S BULK WATER CHARGES

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE
AUTHOR: Bruce Logan, Director - Water and Waste
Reference: Item 8.2 to Ordinary Council 26 November 2024 - Minute No 322/24

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Sutherland

That in relation to the report “IPART's Determination of Water NSW's and the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation's Bulk Water Charges, Council receive and note the report.

| OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION | OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION |
|---|--|
| 1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Charles Impey 3. Cr Stephen Mears 4. Cr Brendon North 5. Cr Mark Rodda 6. Cr Marc Sutherland 7. Cr Russell Webb | Nil |

170/25 RESOLVED

9 GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY AND FINANCE

9.1 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS JUNE 2025

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

MOTION

Moved Cr Impey/Cr Sutherland

That in relation to the report “Council Investments June 2025”, Council receive and note the report.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

171/25 RESOLVED

9.2 AMENDMENT TO ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
AUTHOR: Lisa May, Coordinator Governance and Executive Services

Reference: Item 9.1 to Ordinary Meeting of 10 December 2024 - Minute No 357/24

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Brooke

That in relation to the report “Amendment to Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule”, Council amend the Council Meeting schedule to move the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for 12 August 2025 to 5 August 2025.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

172/25 RESOLVED

9.3 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN 2024/2025 BUDGET VARIATION REPORT - JUNE 2025

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
AUTHOR: Sherrill Young, Manager - Financial Services
Reference: Item 9.5 to Ordinary Council 25 June 2024 - Minute No 148/24

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr North

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

| COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION | COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION |
|---|--|
| 1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Charles Impey 3. Cr Stephen Mears 4. Cr Brendon North 5. Cr Mark Rodda 6. Cr Marc Sutherland 7. Cr Russell Webb | Nil |

173/25 RESOLVED

9.4 MODERN SLAVERY PREVENTION DRAFT POLICY

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

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report “Modern Slavery Prevention Draft Policy”, Council:

- (i) authorise the “Draft Modern Slavery Prevention Policy” ANNEXURE 1 to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days;
- (ii) request a further report to Council to consider any feedback received throughout the public exhibition period and present for formal adoption of the final Modern Slavery Policy; and
- (iii) authorise the adoption of the Draft Policy in the event that no submissions are received and no changes are made to the Draft Policy.

| COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION | COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION |
|--|--|
| 1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Charles Impey 3. Cr Stephen Mears 4. Cr Brendon North | Nil |

5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

174/25 RESOLVED

MATTER ARISING

MOTION

Moved Cr Rodda/Cr Brooke

Cr Rodda questioned what steps were being undertaken by Tamworth Regional Council in relation to illegal share houses and enforcement. The Director Liveable Communities advised that there is no legislation regarding how many people can live in a house and that Council would only be notified if there were complaints regarding noise or parking etc. The General Manager advised that while this was an issue prior to COVID, there have not been any recent complaints.

175/25 RESOLVED

10 COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.1 TAMWORTH REGION ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 10 APRIL 2025

**DIRECTORATE:
AUTHOR:**

**CREATIVE COMMUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES
Bridget Guthrie, Director Art Gallery and Museums**

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Mears

That in relation to the report “Tamworth Region Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - 10 April 2025”, Council:

- (i) receive and note the minutes;
- (ii) approve the replacement of the Nivison mural as recommended by the TRAAC committee and in accordance with the Public Art Policy; and
- (iii) support in-principle the SES mural project and assist to identify potential locations for this large scale mural.

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

176/25 RESOLVED

11 REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

At 6.57pm, 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

That Item 11.2 “Proposed Lease Agreement for Public Museums” be considered in open Council.

MOTION

Moved Cr Rodda/Cr North

COUncILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

COUncILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION

Nil

177/25 RESOLVED

11.2 PROPOSED LEASE AGREEMENTS FOR PUBLIC MUSEUMS

DIRECTORATE:
AUTHOR:

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
Nicholas Hawkins, Commercial Property Officer
Bridget Guthrie, Director Art Gallery and Museums

MOTION

Moved Cr Rodda/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Proposed Lease Agreements for Public Museums”, Council:

- (i) authorise the Mayor and General Manager to negotiate and enter into the lease agreements of Council land referred to in the body of this report; and
- (ii) authorise the affixing of the Seal of Council to the lease agreements and any other documentation required to give effect to Council’s Resolution.

COUncILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey

COUncILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION

Nil

3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

178/25 RESOLVED

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Impey

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.

| OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION | OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION |
|---|---|
| 1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Charles Impey 3. Cr Stephen Mears 4. Cr Brendon North 5. Cr Mark Rodda 6. Cr Marc Sutherland 7. Cr Russell Webb | Nil |

179/25 RESOLVED

11.1 PROPOSED LEASE ADJUSTMENT NORTH TAMWORTH RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB OF LOT 15 IN DEPOSITED PLAN 858511

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

AUTHOR: Kirrilee Ringland, Manager - Property and Legal Services

Reference: Item 12.4 to Ordinary Council 8 June 2021 - Minute No 170/21;
Item 10.3 to Ordinary Council 13 August 2024 - Minute No 215/24.

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (c) 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 person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

11.3 TENDER T084-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x EXCAVATOR

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.

11.4 TENDER T092-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x EXCAVATOR

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.

11.5 TENDER T085-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x WASTE HANDLING WHEEL LOADER

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.

11.6 TENDER T109-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x WASTE HANDLING TRACK LOADER

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.

12 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS

12.1 PROPOSED LEASE ADJUSTMENT NORTH TAMWORTH RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB OF LOT 15 IN DEPOSITED PLAN 858511

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
AUTHOR: Kirrilee Ringland, Manager - Property and Legal Services
Reference: Item 12.4 to Ordinary Council 8 June 2021 - Minute No 170/21
Item 10.3 to Ordinary Council 13 August 2024 - Minute No 215/24

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report “Proposed Lease Adjustment North Tamworth Rugby League Football Club of Lot 15 in Deposited Plan 858511”, Council:

- (i) authorise the Mayor and General Manager to negotiate a Variation to the terms of the existing Lease to North Tamworth Rugby League Football Club as set out herein;
- (ii) authorise the affixing of the Seal of Council to the Variation document and any other associated documentation.

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

180/25 RESOLVED

12.2 TENDER T084-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 X EXCAVATOR

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 Mears/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Tender T084-2025 Supply and Delivery of 1 x Excavator”, Council award the tender to WesTrac Pty Ltd (ABN: 63 009 342 572) for the supply and delivery of 1 x Caterpillar 315 Hydraulic Excavator for a purchase price of \$347,838.05 excluding GST.

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

181/25 RESOLVED

12.3 TENDER T092-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x EXCAVATOR

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 Mears/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Tender T092-2025 Supply and Delivery of 1 x Excavator”, Council:

- (i) award the tender to WesTrac Pty Ltd (ABN: 63 009 342 572) for the supply and delivery of 1 x Caterpillar 323 Excavator for a purchase price of \$547,830.90 excluding GST; and
- (ii) authorise disposal of the existing unit (AF4352) by public auction.

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

182/25 RESOLVED

**12.4 TENDER T085-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x WASTE HANDLING
WHEEL LOADER**

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 Mears/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Tender T085-2025 Supply and Delivery of 1 x Waste Handling Wheel Loader”, Council:

- (i) award the tender to WesTrac Pty Ltd (ABN: 63 009 342 572) for the supply and delivery of 1 X Caterpillar 950 Wheel Loader for a purchase price of

\$588,902.77 excluding GST; and

(ii) authorise the disposal of the existing unit (AF4015) by public auction.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

183/25 RESOLVED

**12.5 TENDER T109-2025 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 1 x WASTE HANDLING
TRACK LOADER**

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 Mears/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Tender T109-2025 Supply and Delivery of 1 x Waste Handling Track Loader”, Council award the tender to WesTrac Pty Ltd (ABN: 63 009 342 572) for the supply and delivery of 1 x Caterpillar 973 Track Loader for a changeover price of \$1,100,592.79 excluding GST.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Stephen Mears
4. Cr Brendon North
5. Cr Mark Rodda
6. Cr Marc Sutherland
7. Cr Russell Webb

Nil

184/25 RESOLVED

13 **RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN CLOSED COUNCIL**

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr North

That Council move into Open Council.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **FOR**
THE DECISION

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Cr Ryan Brooke | Nil |
| 2. Cr Charles Impey | |
| 3. Cr Stephen Mears | |
| 4. Cr Brendon North | |
| 5. Cr Mark Rodda | |
| 6. Cr Marc Sutherland | |
| 7. Cr Russell Webb | |

185/25 RESOLVED

At 7.06pm 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 7.07pm.

Cr Russell Webb, Chairperson

Tuesday, 5 August 2025

- oOo -