



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

30 JUNE 2025

PAUL BENNETT
GENERAL MANAGER

ORDINARY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Meeting of Tamworth Regional Council held in the Council Chambers, Lands Building,
Nemingha Room, 25-27 Fitzroy Street, Tamworth
MONDAY 30 JUNE 2025 at 6.30PM

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PRESENT: Cr Russell Webb (Mayor), Cr Jeffrey Budd(via audio visual link), 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, Acting 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 Matt Sharpham who is unable to attend the Meeting due to personal reasons.

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr North

That the apology be accepted and Cr Matt Sharpham be granted leave of absence from 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 Mark Rodda
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST** THE DECISION

Nil

138/25 RESOLVED

2 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr North

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 10 June 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 Mark Rodda

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST** THE DECISION

Nil

7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

139/25 RESOLVED

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

5 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

6 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

OPEN COUNCIL REPORTS

7 ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

7.1 PROPOSED LOCALITY BOUNDARY AMENDMENT BETWEEN DARUKA AND KOOTINGAL

DIRECTORATE:

AUTHOR:

LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES

Kathleen See-Kee, Development Support Officer

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Proposed Locality Boundary Amendment between Daruka and Kootingal - RN2024-0023”, Council approves the extension of the locality boundary of Daruka to the North-Eastern cul-de-sac end of Woonooka Road in the locality of Kootingal.

**OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

140/25 RESOLVED

7.2 2025 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION 81ST NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN GRIFFITH FROM 29 SEPTEMBER TO 2 OCTOBER 2025

DIRECTORATE:

WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR:

Bruce Logan, Director - Water and Waste

MOTION

Moved Cr Impey/Cr North

That in relation to the report “2025 Murray Darling Association 81st National Conference to be Held in Griffith from 29 September to 2 October 2025”, Council nominates the Mayor and the Director Water and Waste to attend this Conference.

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda 7. Cr Marc Sutherland 8. Cr Russell Webb	Nil

141/25 RESOLVED

8 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

8.1 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE - ALBURY 9 SEPTEMBER TO 11 SEPTEMBER 2025

DIRECTORATE:

WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR:

**Samantha Ward, Executive Assistant Water and Waste
Daniel Coe, Manager - Water and Environmental
Operations**

Reference:

**Item 8.1 to Ordinary Council 11 June 2024 - Minute No
164/23**

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr Impey

CECOMMENDATION

That in relation to the report “2025 Local Government NSW Water Management Conference - Albury 9 September to 11 September 2025”, Council nominates The Mayor and Director Water and Waste to attend this Conference.

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda 7. Cr Marc Sutherland 8. Cr Russell Webb	Nil

142/25 RESOLVED

8.2 IPART's DETERMINATION OF WATER NSW's AND THE WATER ADMINISTRATION MINISTERIAL CORPORATION'S BULK WATER CHARGES TO 30 JUNE 2028

DIRECTORATE: **WATER AND WASTE**
AUTHOR: **Brice Logan, Director – Water and Waste**

This Report has been Withdrawn.

9 GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY AND FINANCE

9.1 SUNDRY DEBTOR WRITE OFF FOR 2024/2025

DIRECTORATE: **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**
AUTHOR: **Tiffany Pugh, Rates Accountant**

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Sutherland

That in relation to the report “Sundry Debtor Write Off for 2024/2025”, Council approve the writing off of sundry debtors totalling \$94,009.95 in accordance with Section 131 and 213 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

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

143/25 RESOLVED

9.2 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN 2024/2025 BUDGET VARIATION REPORT - MAY 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 North/Cr Brooke

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

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION
1. Cr Ryan Brooke	Nil
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd	
3. Cr Charles Impey	

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

144/25 RESOLVED

9.3 WRITING OFF OF POSTPONED RATES, CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS AND CHARGES FOR 2024/2025

DIRECTORATE:
AUTHOR:

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
Tiffany Pugh, Rates Accountant

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report "Writing Off of Postponed Rates, Conservation Agreements and Charges for 2024/2025" Council approves the writing off of Rates and Charges totalling \$162,604.47 in accordance with Section 131 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

**OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda
7. Cr Marc Sutherland
8. Cr Russell Webb

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

145/25 RESOLVED

9.4 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS MAY 2025

DIRECTORATE:
AUTHOR:

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

MOTION

Moved Cr Impey/Cr North

That in relation to the report "Council Investments May 2025", Council receive and note the report.

**OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda
7. Cr Marc Sutherland

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

8. Cr Russell Webb

146/25 RESOLVED

9.5 TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL - INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS

DIRECTORATE:

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

AUTHOR:

**Sherrill Young, Manager - Financial Services
Katie Alchin, Manager Strategy & Performance**

Reference:

Item 9.1 to Ordinary Council 13 May 2025 - Minute No 108/25

Item 9.8 to Ordinary Council 25 March 2025 - Minute No 68/25

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Sutherland

That in relation to the report “Tamworth Regional Council – Integrated Planning and Reporting”, Council makes the following determinations:

- (i) in relation to ordinary rates, Council adopts the Special Variation Scenario of 15.0% (inclusive of a 3.8% rate peg increase) annual maximum rate peg, as approved by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART);
- (ii) in accordance with Section 494 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the ordinary rates for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, refer ANNEXURE 4;
- (iii) in accordance with Part 9, Division 5, clause 211(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council approves expenditure and vote funds as detailed in the DRAFT Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan and Budget 2025/26;
- (iv) Council authorises the affixing of the Seal of the Council to all Loan Documents relating to 2025/2026 loan funding for:
 - Aquatic, Education and Health Centre of Excellence;
 - Digital Transformation;
 - Organic Recycling Facility (subject to Capital Expenditure Review Approval)
 - Tamworth Regional Skywalk
 - Tamworth Global Gateway Parkas detailed in DRAFT Delivery Program 2025-2029 and DRAFT Operational Plan and Budget 2025/26, and DRAFT 2025/26 Statement of Revenue Policy, refer ANNEXURE 3 and ANNEXURE 4;
- (v) in relation to water supply charges; in accordance with Section 501 and Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the charges for Water Supply Services in 2025/2026, refer ANNEXURE 4;
- (vi) in relation to sewerage service charges; in accordance with Section 501 and Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the charges for Sewerage Services in 2025/2026, refer ANNEXURE 4;
- (vii) in relation to waste management charges, in accordance with Section 496 and Section 501 and Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make

and levy the annual charges for Waste Management Services in 2025/2026, refer ANNEXURE 4;

(viii) in relation to stormwater management service charges, in accordance with Section 496A of the Local Government Act 1993, Council make and impose the charges for the purpose of construction of Stormwater Management Services identified in Council's Urban Area Stormwater Management Plan(s), refer ANNEXURE 4;

(ix) in relation to interest on overdue rates and charges, Council make and impose the maximum charge for interest of 10.5% on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government, in accordance with Section 566 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993;

(x) in relation to the exhibited fees and charges; fees and charges for the actual use of services provided by Council as detailed in DRAFT Delivery Program 2025-2029 and DRAFT Operational Plan and Budget 2025/2026 be adopted in accordance with Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, refer ANNEXURE 3 and ANNEXURE 4;

(xi) in accordance with Section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council endorse the DRAFT Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 ATTACHED, refer ANNEXURE 2

(xii) in accordance with Section 403, 404, 405 and 406 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council adopt DRAFT Delivery Program 2025-2029 ATTACHED refer ANNEXURE 3, DRAFT Operational Plan and Budget 2025/26 ATTACHED, refer ANNEXURE 4, DRAFT Resourcing Strategy 2025-2036 ATTACHED, refer ANNEXURE 5, and DRAFT Fees & Charges 2025/26 ATTACHED, refer ANNEXURE 6.

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Jeffrey Budd
2. Cr Charles Impey
3. Cr Brendon North
4. Cr Marc Sutherland
5. Cr Russell Webb

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke
2. Cr Stephen Mears
3. Cr Mark Rodda

147/25 RESOLVED

10 COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.1 2025 TAMWORTH NAIDOC COMMITTEE FEE WAIVER REQUEST

DIRECTORATE:

LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES

AUTHOR:

Haley Fenn, Team Leader, Inclusive Community

MOTION

Moved Cr Sutherland/Cr Brooke

That in relation to the report "2025 Tamworth NAIDOC Committee Fee Waiver Request", Council subsidise the fees associated with the hire of Tamworth Regional Council facilities and services by the amount disclosed in this report.

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

1. Cr Ryan Brooke

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

- Nil

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

148/25 RESOLVED

10.2 2025/2026 REGIONAL EVENTS MARKETING SUPPORT PROGRAM

DIRECTORATE: **CREATIVE COMMUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES**
AUTHOR: **Linda Bridges, Coordinator Visitor Economy**

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Brooke

That in relation to the report “2025/2026 Regional Events Marketing Support Program”, Council:

- (i) support the recommended events as noted within the body of this report; and;
- (ii) approve the allocation of funds as outlined in the body of the report.

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda 7. Cr Marc Sutherland 8. Cr Russell Webb	Nil

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS 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 Mark Rodda 7. Cr Marc Sutherland 8. Cr Russell Webb	Nil

149/25 RESOLVED

11 REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

At 7.23pm, 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 Sutherland/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.

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION
1. Cr Ryan Brooke	Nil

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

150/25 RESOLVED

11.1 TENDER P00824 - TENDER FOR COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF SCRAP METAL, BATTERIES, E-WASTE, CAR BODY AND REFRIGERANT DE-GASSING

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR: Doug Hughes, Manager - Waste & Resource Recovery

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (c),(d)i&(d)ii 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, commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of Council.

11.2 PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF A SEWER EASEMENT - CALALA LANE

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR: Ian Cross, Senior Project Engineer

2 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

The Council will determine this matter in part of the Meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 10A(2) (c),(d)i&(d)ii 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, commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of Council.

12 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS

12.1 TENDER P00824 - TENDER FOR COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF SCRAP METAL, BATTERIES, E-WASTE, CAR BODY AND REFRIGERANT DE-GASSING

DIRECTORATE: WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR: Doug Hughes, Manager - Waste & Resource Recovery

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Sutherland

That in relation to the report “Tender P00824 - Tender for Collection and Processing of Scrap Metal, Batteries, E-Waste, Car body and Refrigerant De-gassing”, Council accept the conforming tender from Sims Group Australia Holdings Limited (trading as Sims Metal) at the rates detailed in the Tender.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST

THE DECISION	THE DECISION
1. Cr Ryan Brooke	Nil
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd	
3. Cr Charles Impey	
4. Cr Stephen Mears	
5. Cr Brendon North	
6. Cr Mark Rodda	
7. Cr Marc Sutherland	
8. Cr Russell Webb	

151/25 RESOLVED

12.2 PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF A SEWER EASEMENT - CALALA LANE

DIRECTORATE:

WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR:

Ian Cross, Senior Project Engineer

2 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report "Proposed Acquisition of a Sewer Easement - Calala Lane", Council:

- (i) agree to pay the owner of Lot 1 in DP198181 the amount as detailed in the report for the acquisition of a sewer easement of variable width located at the southern boundary of the property;
- (ii) agree to create an easement to drain sewage 5 metres wide on the Council owned Lot 1820 in DP1122162
- (iii) provide funds from the Tamworth Section 64 Sewer Reserve for the acquisition of the easement/s, creation of the easement/s and other costs as required; and
- (iv) authorise the affixing of the Seal of Council to the Deed of Agreement and any associated documentation required to give effect to Council's resolution.

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

**COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

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

152/25 RESOLVED

13 RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

MOTION

Moved Cr Impey/Cr Brooke

That Council move into Open Council.

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST

THE DECISION	THE DECISION
1. Cr Ryan Brooke	Nil
2. Cr Jeffrey Budd	
3. Cr Charles Impey	
4. Cr Stephen Mears	
5. Cr Brendon North	
6. Cr Mark Rodda	
7. Cr Marc Sutherland	
8. Cr Russell Webb	

153/25 RESOLVED

At 7.28pm 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 7.28pm.

Cr Russell Webb, Chairperson

Tuesday, 8 July 2025

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