



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**

8 APRIL 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 8 APRIL 2025 at 6.30PM

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PRESENT: Cr Jeffrey Budd (Chair), Cr Ryan Brooke, Cr Stephen Mears, Cr Brendon North, Cr Mark Rodda, Cr Charles Impey and Cr Matt Sharpham.

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 Marc Sutherland who are unable to attend the Meeting due to being on leave.

Mayor Russell Webb was acknowledged as having a leave of absence granted at the 25 March 2025 Council Meeting.

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Sharpham

That the apology be accepted and Cr Marc Sutherland be granted a leave of absence from the Meeting.

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 Matthew Sharpham	Nil

76/25 **RESOLVED**

2 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

MOTION

Moved Cr North/Cr Brooke

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 25 March 2025, copies of which were circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the Meeting.

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	Nil

6. Cr Mark Rodda
7. Cr Matthew Sharpham

77/25 RESOLVED

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

5 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

6 NOTICE OF MOTION

6.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR RYAN BROOKE - ENDORSE PRIORITIES TO BE SENT TO CANDIDATES FOR NEW ENGLAND IN THE MAY 2025 AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Mears

That Council endorse the following list of priorities and advocate for support from each candidate running in the May 2025, Australian Federal election for the seat of New England, as follows:

- (i) commit to securing Tamworth, Kootingal and Moonbi's water supply via financial contributions to water infrastructure projects, such as the proposed Tamworth Industrial Water Recycling Plant;
- (ii) create incentives that will enable an increase in the construction of affordable housing throughout the Tamworth Region;
- (iii) a commitment to support the creation, both in principle and via financial contributions, of a Performing Arts Centre in Tamworth;
- (iv) a commitment to support the expansion, both in principle and via financial contributions, of the Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC);
- (v) an acceleration and significant increase to road funding to construct identified road network projects and upgrades around the Tamworth Region;
- (vi) request that the Financial Assistance Grant be set at 1% of GDP;
- (vii) seek intervention from the Commonwealth Government to address the chronic shortages of medical staff in Rural and Regional NSW;
- (ix) appeal to candidates for ways of addressing the disparity in social economic postcodes identified in the New England Region; and
- (x) address the gaps in our current communication system to better assist community members in regional and remote areas.

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR
THE DECISION**

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

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

5. Cr Brendon North
6. Cr Mark Rodda
7. Cr Matthew Sharpham

78/25 RESOLVED

OPEN COUNCIL REPORTS

7 ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

Nil

8 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

8.1 2025 COUNTRY CAPITOL CUP FEE WAIVER REQUEST - TAMWORTH GYMNASTICS CLUB

DIRECTORATE: REGIONAL SERVICES
AUTHOR: Paul Kelly, Manager - Sports and Recreation

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr Impey

That in relation to the report “2025 Country Capitol Cup Fee Waiver Request - Tamworth Gymnastics Club”, Council subsidises the fees associated with the use of the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre by the amount disclosed in this 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 Mark Rodda
7. Cr Matthew Sharpham

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

79/25 RESOLVED

8.2 TAMWORTH REGIONAL LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 MARCH 2025

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

MOTION

Moved Cr Sharpham/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Tamworth Regional Local Traffic Committee Meeting - 5 March 2025”, Council:

- (i) approves the proposed traffic impacts and road closures as a result of the ANZAC Day Marches in Tamworth, Barraba, Manilla, Attunga, Somerton, Kootingal, Bendemeer and Nundle;

- (ii) approves the closure of Brisbane Street, East Tamworth between Upper Street and Napier Street, from 4.00am to 6.30am on 25 April 2025, for the purpose of holding the Tamworth ANZAC Day Dawn Service;
- (iii) approves the closure of Gipps Street, West Tamworth between Denison Street and Belmore Street, from 6.00am to 10.00am on 25 April 2025, for the purpose of holding a Memorial Service;
- (iv) approves the installation of '15min' parking zone signage on George Street, Moonbi as per the attached signage plan; and
- (v) approves relocation of the NO STOPPING (r5-400) sign 9m further south on Brisbane Street, East Tamworth.

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 Matthew Sharpham	Nil

80/25 RESOLVED

8.3 REDUCTION IN WATER CONSUMPTION CHARGES POLICY

DIRECTORATE:

WATER AND WASTE

AUTHOR:

Daniel Coe, Manager - Water and Environmental Operations

Reference:

Item 12.6 to Ordinary Council 26 April 2022 - Minute No 123/22

Item 8.3 to Ordinary Council 11 February 2025 - Minute No 5/25

MOTION

Moved Cr Sharpham/Cr Mears

That in relation to the report "Reduction in Water Consumption Charges Policy", Council:

- (i) remove the Reduction in Water Consumption Charges Policy from Council's General Policy Register; and
- (ii) agree customers will be able to make a claim under the existing policy for water consumption invoices sent out as a result of the March 30 2025, automatic meter reading. The Policy would then be withdrawn as of 1 July 2025, and no further claims could be made for meter readings made on or after 30 June 2025.

OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED FOR THE DECISION	OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION
1. Cr Jeffrey Budd 2. Cr Charles Impey 3. Cr Stephen Mears 4. Cr Brendon North 5. Cr Mark Rodda	1. Cr Ryan Brooke

6. Cr Matthew Sharpham

82/25 RESOLVED

9 GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY AND FINANCE

9.1 PLACE MANAGEMENT UPDATE - SECTION 355 COMMITTEE MINUTES

DIRECTORATE:

LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES

AUTHOR:

Kay Burnes, Team Leader - Place Management
Jodie Archer, Place Manager

MOTION

Moved Cr Impey/Cr Brooke

That in relation to the report "Place Management Update - Section 355 Committee Minutes", Council:

(i) receive and note the Minutes of the following Committees:

Attunga Public Hall and Youth Hall Committee AGM

6 August 2024

Attunga Public Hall and Youth Hall Committee

4 February 2025

Manilla Matters Committee AGM

12 September 2024

Moore Creek Hall and Reserve Committee

10 October 2024

Moore Creek Hall and Reserve Committee AGM

24 October 2024

Piallamore Recreation Reserve Committee

19 June 2024

Piallamore Recreation Reserve Committee AGM

6 August 2024

Piallamore Recreation Reserve Committee

6 August 2024

Tamworth Regional Film and Sound Archive Committee

10 December 2024

Weabonga Hall and Recreation Reserve Local Committee AGM

7 July 2024

Weabonga Hall and Recreation Reserve Local Committee

7 July 2024;

(ii) appoint the following executive members and members to the Attunga Public Hall and Youth Hall Committee as an outcome of the Committee's Annual General Meeting held on 6 August 2024:

Chairperson

Lorraine Abra

Deputy Chairperson

Margaret Markwick

Secretary

Ian Regan

Treasurer

Lavinnia Todd

Booking Officer

Daron Johnson and Margaret Markwick

Members: Warren Brinkley, Noel Hollis, Daron Johnson, Margaret Markwick, Robyn Mowbray, Ian Regan, Lavinnia Todd, Jackie Blanch and Ken Blanch;

(iii) appoint Haley Ferguson as a committee member of the Attunga Public Hall and Youth Hall Committee as an outcome of its General Meeting held on 4 February 2025;

(iv) appoint the following executive members and members to the Manilla Matters Committee as an outcome of the Committee's Annual General Meeting held on 12 September 2024:

Chairperson

Kate Phelps

Secretary

Tamara Phelps

Treasurer

David Ridgewell

Members: Greg Phelps, Frank McNamara, Gwen Taylor, Peter Steele, Jim Maxwell;

(v) appoint Grant Green and Teresa Green as committee members of the Moore Creek Hall and Reserve Committee as an outcome of its General Meeting held on 10 October 2024;

(vi) appoint the following executive members and members to the Moore Creek Hall and Reserve Committee as an outcome of the Committee's Annual General Meeting held on 24 October 2024:

Chairperson

Emma Rust

Deputy Chairperson

Teresa Green

Secretary/Treasurer

Megan Jameson

Booking Officer

Emma Rust

Members: Grant Green, Andree Fulwood, Ian Wilson, Douglas Barry, Sonia Bennic, Judy Shorten.

Cricket Club Representatives: Colin Williamson, Adam Forwood, Jamie Burke, Michael Forwood, Brad Nichols.

Rural Fire Service Representatives: Benjamin Young, Tom Fulwood, Matt Dickinson, Nick Willey and David Clark;

(vii) appoint Jack Domis as a committee member of the Piallamore Recreation Reserve Committee as an outcome of its Ordinary Meeting held on 19 June 2024;

(viii) appoint the following executive members and members to the Piallamore Recreation Reserve Committee as an outcome of the Committee's Annual General Meeting held on 6 August 2024:

Chairperson

Mark Stass

Deputy Chairperson

Robert Hutt

Secretary/Treasurer

Jo-Anna Heenan

Booking Officer

Mark Stass

Members: Richard Cheetham, Wendy Cheetham, Colin McCormack, Sue Stass, Robert Hutt, Barry Moss, Stuart Garland, Megan Kahn, Allan Moss, Nicolette Moss, David Heenan, Kate Garland, Francene Hutt, Bob Abra, Tony McClelland;

(ix) appoint Martin Kahn as a committee member of the Piallamore Recreation Reserve Committee as an outcome of its Ordinary Meeting held on 6 August 2024;

(x) appoint Dave Locklee as a committee member of the Tamworth Regional Film and Sound Archive Committee as an outcome of its Ordinary Meeting held on 10 December 2024;

(xi) accept the resignation of Robyn Byrnes from the Tamworth Regional Film and Sound Archive Committee as an outcome of its General Meeting held on 10 December 2024;

(xii) appoint the following executive members and members to the Weabonga Hall and Recreation Reserve Local Committee as an outcome of the Committee's Annual General Meeting held on 7 July 2024:

Chairperson	Mia Jenkins
Secretary	Shane Thompson
Treasurer	Sara Rumble
Booking Officers	Garry Mahoney and Ian (Bert) Robertson

Members: Howard Webster, Paul Rumble, David Jones, Evon Yule, Dennis Chenoweth, Ian (Bert) Robertson, Alison Pitt, David Pitt, Garry Mahoney, Billy Mann, Simon Abrahams, Marilyn Max, Peter Max, Caleb Edmonds, Brayden Rumble, Kayla Ferily and Ruth White;

- (xiii) appoint Troy Cooper, Serato Cooper, Cai Leigh Rumble and Kayla Ferily as committee members of the Weabonga Hall and Recreation Reserve Local Committee as an outcome of its Ordinary Meeting held 7 July 2024; and
- (xiv) be provided with a revised model of more manageable governance procedures for the Council's volunteer committees.

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 Matthew Sharpham

COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED **AGAINST**
THE DECISION

Nil

81/25 RESOLVED

10 COMMUNITY SERVICES

11 REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

At 6:48pm, 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 Sharpham/Cr Mears

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 THE DECISION	COUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE DECISION
1. Cr Ryan Brooke 2. Cr Jeffrey Budd 3. Cr Charles Impey 4. Cr Stephen Mears	Nil

- 5. Cr Brendon North
- 6. Cr Mark Rodda
- 7. Cr Matthew Sharpham

82/25 RESOLVED

12 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS

12.1 MANILLA FISH HATCHERY - LEASE OF LAND

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

MOTION

Moved Cr Brooke/Cr North

That in relation to the report “Manilla Fish Hatchery - Lease of Land”, Council:

- (i) authorise the Mayor and General Manager to negotiate the terms of a lease agreement as set out in the body of this report; and
- (ii) authorise the affixing of the Seal of Council to the lease agreement and any other associated documents.

**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 Matthew Sharpham

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

83/25 RESOLVED

12.2 TENDER T053/2025 - MANILLA WATER MAIN RENEWAL

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

1 CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURES ENCLOSED

MOTION

Moved Cr Rodda/Cr Mears

That in relation to the report “Tender T053/2025 - Manilla Water Main Renewal”, Council accepts the Tender from TPE Enterprises as the preferred contractor to undertake the works as detailed in the body of 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

**OUNCILLORS WHO VOTED AGAINST
THE DECISION**

Nil

6. Cr Mark Rodda
7. Cr Matthew Sharpham

84/25 RESOLVED

13 RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN CLOSED COUNCIL

MOTION

Moved Cr Mears/Cr Sharpham

That Council move into Open Council.

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 Matthew Sharpham

COUncillors WHO VOTED **AGAINST**

THE DECISION

Nil

85/25 RESOLVED

At 6:52pm 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 6:52pm

Cr Jeffrey Budd, Chairperson

Tuesday, 29 April 2025

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