



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY
COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2024
COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM
AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Councillors:

Cr Tony Reneker (Mayor), Cr. Michael Kidd (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Paul Smith, Cr. Krystal Maytom, Cr. Tony Ciccia, Cr. Matt Holt, Cr. Tracey Morris and Cr. George Weston.

Staff:

Jackie Kruger (General Manager), Avtar Singh (Director Corporate / CFO), Michelle Evans (Director Economic and Community Development), Sarah Graham (Manager Governance, Corporate and Customer Service) and Mark Johnson (Finance Contractor) via videoconference.

Press: Nil

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

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1. **CIVIC PRAYER** Cr. Maytom

2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** Mayor Cr. Reneker

3. **APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

24/051

Resolved

Cr. Nardi

(Moved Cr. Ciccia, seconded Cr. Maytom)

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

24/052

Resolved

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24 April 2024, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr. Weston, seconded Cr. Maytom)

ADDITIONAL/LATE ITEMS

24/053

Resolved

THAT the:

- 2023/24 Budget Review for the Quarter Ending 30 March 2024 is accepted as a late item onto this agenda for discussion (Item 7.6)
- Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants Program Allocations onto this agenda for discussion (Item 7.7).

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Weston)

Procedural Motion

24/054

Resolved

THAT Item 7.6 be moved forward as the first Staff Report to Council to accommodate staff representations on this item.

(Moved Cr. Holt, seconded Cr. Ciccia)

Mark Johnson (Finance Contractor) entered the meeting, via videoconference, the time being 7:05 PM

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Cr. Kidd disclosed a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 7.7 Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants Program Allocations as he is a member of the Leeton United Football Club and elected to leave the Chambers when the allocation for the Leeton United Football Club was being considered.

Cr. Smith disclosed a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 7.7 Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants Program Allocations as he is a member of the Riverina Riding Club and elected to stay in the Chambers when the allocation for the Riverina Riding Club was being considered.

Cr. Weston disclosed a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 7.7 Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants Program Allocations as he is a member of the Rotary Club of Leeton and elected to stay in the Chambers when the allocation for the Rotary Club of Leeton was being considered.

6. MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

7. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

CORPORATE MATTERS

Item 7.6 2023/24 BUDGET REVIEW FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30 MARCH 2024

24/055

Resolved

THAT Council reviews and considers the Quarterly Budget Review (QBR) as at 31 March 2024, and approves the changes recommended by Management.

(Moved Cr. Morris, seconded Cr. Kidd)

Mark Johnson (Finance Contractor) entered the meeting, via videoconference, the time being 7:18 PM

Item 7.1 INVESTMENTS REPORT FOR APRIL 2024

24/056

Resolved

THAT Council notes the information contained in the Investments Report for April 2024.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Morris)

Item 7.2 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 2 MAY 2024

24/057

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Notes the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Thursday 2 May 2024.
2. Notes the Chairman's Report to the Mayor and Councillors from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Thursday 2 May 2024.

(Moved Cr. Weston, seconded Cr. Morris)

Item 7.3 POLICY REVIEW - MAY 2024

24/058

Resolved

THAT Council endorses the following DRAFT policies for public exhibition for 28 days and, if no substantive feedback is received, the policies will be considered adopted the:

- DRAFT - Parks, Playgrounds and Recreational Facilities Maintenance Management Policy, and
- DRAFT - Related Party Disclosure Policy.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Holt)

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Item 7.4 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - MERGER TRIAL

24/059

Resolved

THAT Council approves the trial merger of the Leeton and Narrandera Local Emergency Management Committees for a period of 12 months, commencing on 11 June 2024. On completion of the 12-month trial period a report will be tabled to Council for consideration.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Kidd)

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

Item 7.5 INFORMATION ON WR CONNECT BUSINESS CASE AND MASTERPLAN

24/060

Resolved

THAT Council receives for information the report on the WR Connect Business Case and Masterplan.

(Moved Cr. Weston, seconded Cr. Kidd)

Item 7.7 ROUND TWO OF THE 2023/24 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS

24/061

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Approves the following applications for funding under Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants program:

Rotary Club of Leeton	\$ 1,500.00
Leeton Rapid Relief Team	\$ 1,000.00
Nuranurra Support Services	\$ 1,500.00
Yanco Museum Miniature Railway	\$ 2,000.00
Murrumbidgee Mavericks	\$ 643.10
Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club	\$ 1,200.00
MIA Bootleggers	\$ 500.00
Leeton United Football Club	\$ 1,300.00
Leeton Town Band	\$ 850.00
Leeton Lions Club	\$ 1,500.00
TOTAL	<u>\$11,996.10</u>

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Holt)

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Item 9.1 COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the Councillor activity reports submitted for the period between 24 April 2024 to 22 May 2024.

(Moved Cr. Weston, seconded Cr. Kidd)

10. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Note: Pursuant to Section 10A(4), the public were invited to make representations to the Council meeting before any part of the meeting is closed, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

24/062

Resolved

1. That Council moves into Closed Council to consider business identified,
2. That in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting to enable Council to determine items listed in Confidential Matters for the reasons indicated.
3. That the report relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by Section 11(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Holt)

The Mayor asked the gallery if there were any objections to Council going into Closed Session to consider the matters listed.

No objections were received from the Gallery.

Council closed its meeting at 8:07pm and the public and press left the Chambers.

Item 10.1 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMEBERS TO THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, as the report contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (Section 10A(2)a).

CLOSED COUNCIL - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Item 10.1 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMEBERS TO THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

24/063

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Approves the appointment of the following candidates as independent members of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for the terms specified:
 - Ms. Kerry Phillips for the initial term of four (4) years – chair elect,
 - Mr. David Kortum for the initial term of three (3) years,
 - Mr. Max Shanahan for the initial term of two (2) years, and
 - Mr. Graham Bradley for up to a year including remaining as the ARIC Chair for the first six (6) months, covering two (2) meetings.
2. Conveys its thanks to retiring Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee members Mr. Emerson Doig, Mr. William Robertson, and Cr. Tracey Morris, noting their dedicated service.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Holt)

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

24/064

Resolved

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 8:16 pm.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Weston)

The Mayor advised that during the Closed Council resolutions were passed.

The General Manager read out the resolutions made in Closed Council for Item 10.1.

11. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:18 pm.

..... signed by
the Chairman of the meeting held on
26 Jun 2024 at which meeting the
signature hereon was subscribed.