

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON TUESDAY, 17 APRIL 2018 COMMENCING AT 8:30AM.

PRESENT: Councillor M. Dusting - Chairperson, Councillors L. Martin, A. Murat and J. Galletly.

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager Mr W. Deer and Senior Weeds Officer Mr J. Browning.

APOLOGIES: Councillor S. Kermode.

13/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that the apology be accepted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2018.

14/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Martin and Galletly that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council held on 20 February 2018, copies of which have been distributed to all members, are taken as read and confirmed a true record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2018.

There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair advised of the following:

- Reported on the annual Chairman's tour of Council's area following the February 2018 meeting of Council which took in the areas of Invergowrie, detailing the inspection program on small holdings ; Bundarra where Council staff are working with land holders on Blackberry control programs; Kentucky where a major infestation of Serrated Tussock has been controlled; Wollun, highlighting infestations of Blackberry and St Johns Wort along the Railway Corridor; Woolbrook where an overview of the control program for various weeds was provided along with work on Crown lands; Thunderbolts Way between Walcha and Uralla where in partnership with the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services control programs have been put in place for St Johns Wort along roadsides, as well as in Armidale including a recreational park where a small controlled infestation of Lippia is located. Appreciation

was extended to Council's Senior Biosecurity Officer (Weeds) for organising the tour and to Councillors who were able to attend.

- Advised that the next meeting of Northern Tablelands Regional Weeds Committee will be held at Walcha on 8 May 2018 and that it is to be a combined meeting with the North West Regional Weeds Committee. The Chairman along with Council staff will be attending the meeting.

1. NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN 2018-2019 (ITEM 7.1.1)

15/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that:

1. That the Draft Annual Operational Plan 2018-2019 be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.
2. That following the conclusion of the public exhibition period a further report be presented to Council on submissions received and for the adoption of the Draft New England Weeds Authority Annual Operational Plan 2018-2019.
3. That the constituent member Councils of Armidale Regional, Walcha and Uralla be provided with a copy of the Draft New England Weeds Authority Annual Operational Plan 2018-2019 for comment.

2. AUDIT OFFICE OF NSW- AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 2018 (ITEM 7.1.2)

16/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Martin and Murat that the report on the Audit process of Council's financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2018 be received and noted.

3. NORTHERN TABLELANDS REGIONAL STRATEGIC WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017-2022 - REGIONAL WEEDS BEST PRACTICE GUIDES (ITEM 7.1.3)

17/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that the report on the development of Regional Best Practice Guides for regional priority weeds identified in the Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 be received and noted, **AND FURTHER THAT** staff be congratulated on producing the Regional Best Practice Guides.

4. INVESTED FUNDS REPORT (ITEM 7.1.4)

18/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Galletly and Martin that:

- 1) The report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted.
- 2) The Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.

5. MARCH 2018 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW (ITEM 7.1.5)

19/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that Council adopt the March 2018 Quarterly Budget Review and approve the Budget variations.

6. 2017/2018 WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM (ITEM 7.2.1)

20/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that the report on the 2017/2018 Weeds Action Program be received and noted.

7. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19 June 2018 at 8.30 am.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:10 AM.