

**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, 22 AUGUST 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:55AM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M. Dusting (Chair), Councillor S. Kermode and Armidale Regional Council Administrator, Dr I. Tiley

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

**APOLOGIES:** Nil

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 2017**

**35/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Kermode that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council held on 20 June 2017, copies of which have been distributed to all members, are taken as read and confirmed a true record.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 2017**

There were no matters arising

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The Chair advised of the following:

- Reported on the July 2017 meeting of the Organizing Committee for the 19<sup>th</sup> NSW State Weeds Conference to be held in Armidale from the 16 -19 October 2017, advising that the program and field trips have been finalised, with many renowned speakers. A feature of the conference will be the debate on the topic of “*A landholder biosecurity duty is the best approach to managing established weeds*”. Sponsorship targets are on track with budget expectations. Registrations for the conference are now open with special rates for “early bird” registrations. Councillors have been registered for the conference. The conference website is <http://conferencecompany.com.au/weedsconference/>. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 28 August 2017.
- Advised that the Minister for Primary Industries, the Hon Niall Blair has recently approved of the Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 -2022 and tabled a copy of the Plan at the Council meeting.
- Advised of recent discussions with the General Manager following his meeting with officers of the Audit Office of NSW in Armidale on 31 July 2017 and referred to the report in the Business Paper on the good financial result for Council as evidenced in the Financial Statements for 2016/2017.

**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, 22 AUGUST 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:55AM**

Thanked staff for their ongoing commitment to Council and its endeavours in weed management and control.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**1. ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS (ITEM 7.1)**

**INVESTED FUNDS REPORT (ITEM 7.1.1)**

**36/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Kermode that:

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

**PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS (ITEM 7.1.2)**

**37/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Kermode that Council formally records that the Ordinary Returns of Pecuniary Interest required to be submitted by Councillors and the General Manager, for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 have been submitted as required and have been tabled in accordance with the provisions of Section 450A of the Local Government Act, 1993.

**NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY (ITEM 7.1.3)**

**38/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Tiley that Council adopt the New England Weeds Authority, Compliance and Enforcement Policy 03/17, as attached to the report.

**NSW WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM 2015-2020 AMENDED GUIDELINES-COUNCILS LEAD ORGANISATION ROLE (ITEM 7.1.4)**

**39/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Tiley that the report on the implications for Council as the lead organisation for the North West and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, Weeds Action Programs 2015-2020 be received and noted.

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016/2017 (ITEM 7.1.5)**

**40/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Kermode that:

1. The report on the Annual Financial Statements as at 30 June 2017 be received and adopted.

**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,  
22 AUGUST 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:55AM**

2. The signing of the certificate under Section 413(2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993, as detailed in the attachment to the report, by the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and the General Manager/Responsible Accounting Officer be endorsed.

**2. WEED CONTROL MATTERS (ITEM 7.1.2)**

**2017/2018 WEEDS ACTION PLAN (ITEM 7.1.2)**

**41/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Tiley that the report on the 2017/2018 Weeds Action Program be received and noted.

**MATTERS OF URGENCY**

**1. GENERAL MANAGER'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

The Chair, Councillor M Dusting advised of the General Manager's Annual Performance Review, which was conducted with all Councillors present prior to the commencement of the Council meeting.

Further information was provided on the endorsement of the General Manager's Performance Agreement for 2017/18 based on the Annual Operational Plan of Council and in accordance with the General Manager's Contract of Employment.

**42/17 RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Tiley that Council:

1. Note the more than above satisfactory performance of the General Manager, Mr W. Deer following the performance review undertaken on the 22nd August 2017.
2. Endorse the Performance Agreement 2017/18 as presented at the General Manager's performance review.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 8:30 am.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE  
MEETING CLOSED AT 9:41 AM.**