

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, 20 AUGUST 2019 COMMENCING AT 8:40AM.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager, Mr John Duggan, Senior Biosecurity Officer, Mr James Browning

APOLOGIES:

Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2019.

32/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Martin that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council held on 18 June 2019, 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 TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2019.

There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair advised of the following:

- The drought conditions continue to have an impact on NEWA's operational activities.
- I attended the meeting of Northern Tablelands Regional Weeds Committee at Glen Innes on 13 August 2019. The Chairman along with Council staff attended the meeting. We agreed that a sub committee would attempt to integrate reporting of the MERI, the WAP and the Regional Weeds Plan.
- Following this meeting we met staff from Glen Innes. There was general acceptance of the new MOU and we discussed the process suggested in this Business Paper to move forward on the integration of Glenn Innes Severn Council into NEWA.
- Private property inspections are way down for all, which is understandable due to the continuing drought conditions.

- The upcoming 20th NSW Weeds Conference will be held at Newcastle on the 26-29 August.

1. INVESTED FUNDS REPORT as at 31st July 2019 (ITEM 7.1.1)

33/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Murat and Galletly 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.

2. PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES REPORT (ITEM 7.1.2)

34/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Martin and Murat that:

1. That the six- monthly report on Council's compliance with their obligations under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 be received and noted.
2. That a copy of the report be forwarded to the NSW Ombudsman.

5. NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY- COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES 03/17 (ITEM 7.1.3)

35/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Murat THAT Council reaffirm the New England Weeds Authority, Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Procedures 04/17, as attached to the report..

6. REVIEW OF GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FORMAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS COUNTY COUNCIL (ITEM 7.1.4)

36/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Murat that:

1. That NEWA in consultation with Glen Innes Severn Council (GISC) agrees to prepare a draft proposal to OLG to enable GISC to become a full member of the New England Tablelands County Council.
2. That Council endorses the draft MOU and authorises the Chair and General Manager to sign the MOU once supported by GISC.
3. That the draft proposal be prepared for Councils meeting of 22 October 2019.

7. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (ITEM 7.1.5)

37/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Murat that:

1. That the report on the Annual Financial Statements as at 30 June 2019 be received and adopted.

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

10. 2018/2019 WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM (ITEM 7.1.6)

38/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Kermode and Murat that the report on the 2019/2020 Weeds Action Program be received and noted.

11. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 29 October 2019 at 8.30 am at Walcha.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.17 AM.