



# MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on

Tuesday, 2 May 2023

1:00pm

in

NEWA Meeting Room, Rusden Street

**PRESENT:** Councillor Scott Kermode (Chair), Councillor Tim Bower (Deputy Chair),  
Councillor Lara Gresham, Councillor Margaret O'Connor,  
Councillor Paul Packham and Councillor Dorothy Robinson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Tim Weeks (General Manager)  
Laurie Knight (CFO)  
Edna Mendes (by invitation)  
Emma Dunne (Finance & Administration Officer)

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD ON 2 MAY 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

**STATEMENT IN RELATION TO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Cr. Scott Kermode advised that the Meeting was being live streamed, however, a video recording of the meeting will be available on the County Council's website.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Scott Kermode (Chair), Councillor Tim Bower (Deputy Chair),  
Councillor Lara Gresham, Councillor Margaret O'Connor,  
Councillor Paul Packham and Councillor Dorothy Robinson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** General Manager – Tim Weeks,  
Chief Financial Officer – Laurie Knight  
Edna Mendes – by invitation  
Finance and Administration Officer – Emma Dunne

**APOLOGIES:** Nil

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** NIL

**ADOPTION OF OPERATIONAL PLAN AND ANNUAL BUDGET FOR 2023-2024  
FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

It was proposed by Cr. Paul Packham that two amendments be made to the recommended resolution as set out in the Business Paper, as follows:

1. That the sequencing of the three paragraphs making-up the resolution be revised, and
2. That the word 'adopted' be changed and not used.

**Moved:** Councillor Packham

**Seconded:** Councillor Robinson

Cr. Margaret O'Connor proposed that while she had no objection to the order in which the resolution was presented, she did feel use of the word 'adopted' should be *retained* as it reflected the wording of the Act.

**Moved:** Councillor O'Connor

**Seconded:** Councillor Gresham

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed in the MAJORITY.

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The final resolution reads as follows:

**13/23 Resolved:**

1. That the draft New England Weeds Authority Annual Operational Plan and Annual Budget for 2023-2024 be adopted for exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.
2. That the constituent member councils of Armidale Regional, Glenn Innes Severn, Walcha and Uralla Shire be provided with a copy of the Draft New England Weeds Authority Annual Operational Plan 2023-2024 for their comment.
3. That following the conclusion of the public exhibition period, should public submissions have been received that require amendment of the Plan, a further report shall be presented to Council of the submissions and the Draft Operational Plan and Annual Budget amended accordingly.

**QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – MARCH 2023**

**14/23 Resolved:**

1. That Council endorse the changes detailed in the [QBR] reports, and
2. That Council adopt the March 2023 Quarterly Budget Review.

**Moved:** Councillor O'Connor    **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

**WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM [WAP]**

**15/23 Resolved:**

That the Weeds Action Plan summarising outcomes and activities to date, including the 2022-2023 Weeds Action Program, be received, and noted.

**Moved:** Councillor Gresham    **Seconded:** Councillor Robinson

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed UNANIMOUSLY.

**NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 27 June 2023**