



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on

Tuesday, 7 MARCH 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 (arrived 1:05pm),
Councillor Paul Packham and Councillor Dorothy Robinson

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

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD ON 7 MARCH 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

STATEMENT IN RELATION TO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Cr. Scott Kermode advised that the Meeting was *not* 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
Finance and Administration Officer – Emma Dunne

APOLOGIES: Nil

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

NIL

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2023**

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

Cr. Bower advised that the Meeting was *not* being live streamed, however, a video recording of the meeting will be available on the County Council's website.

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Bower (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, and
Finance and Administration Officer – Emma Dunne

APOLOGIES: Councillor Kermode was absent without leave

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

NIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD ON 7 MARCH 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

5/23 Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England County Council held on Tuesday 7 February, having been distributed to the Members, be adopted as a true and correct record of events.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor O'Connor

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed 5 votes to 1 vote.

Councillor Scott Kermode voted against the motion.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2023

There were no matters arising.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

6/23 Resolved:

1. That in accordance with Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and Clause 215 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, that Council adopt the 2021/22 Audited Financial Reports and "Statement by Councillors and Management" for both the General-Purpose Financial Reports and the Special Purpose Financial Reports, signed by the Acting Chair and Deputy Chair as delegated by Council.
2. That Council note that a Public Notice, for the presentation of the Audited 2021-2022 Financial Reports was issued on Monday 27 February 2022 to invite both inspection and comment on the nominated date.
3. That Council note that a copy of the 2021-2022 Financial Reports (attached) have been forwarded to the Office of Local Government.

Moved: Councillor O'Connor

Seconded: Councillor Robinson

The motion being put to the **Vote** was passed 5 votes to 1 vote.

Councillor Scott Kermode voted against the motion.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO TENDER NUMBER 2022/1

7/23 Resolved:

That this item be moved to the last session of the meeting.

Moved: Councillor Robinson

Seconded: Councillor O'Conner

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

WEED CONTROL MATTERS (Weed Action Program 2020-2035)

The February WAP results were noted by Council.

The Chair requested that, in future, Inspection Charts be available in PDF format so as to enable the charts to be read/viewed more easily.

MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency raised.

MOVED ITEM

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO TENDER NUMBER 2022/1

Because the review of submissions in response to Tender 2022/1 contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:

- (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
- (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
- (iii) reveal a trade secret,

This item is to be heard in **Closed Session**.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD ON 7 MARCH 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

8/23 Resolved:

That Council should move into CLOSED SESSION for the discussion of the tender responses.

Moved: Councillor Gresham

Seconded: Councillor Packham

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

10/23 Resolved:

That Council should exit the CLOSED SESSION and return to the Ordinary Meeting.

Moved: Councillor Gresham

Seconded: Councillor Packham

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

The Chairman advised that whilst in Closed Session, Council passed the following resolution:

9/23 Resolved:

1. That the General Manager be authorised to negotiate a non-binding Contract with the Rice Group in accordance with the Tender Document 2022/1 and their Tender Submission received.
2. That the Chief Financial Officer be requested to prepare a report setting out financing options for the proposed construction project, including a Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and in compliance with the Expenditure Guidelines of the Office of Local Government (OLG).

Moved: Councillor Kermode

Seconded: Councillor Gresham

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

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 2nd May 2023 at 01:00pm

MEETING CLOSED: Meeting Closed at 03:15pm