



# MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on

Tuesday, 15 AUGUST 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 (Chief Financial Officer)

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD 15 AUGUST 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

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

*Cr. Kermode advised that the Meeting was not being live streamed, however, an audio 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

**APOLOGIES** Nil

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST** - NIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 27 JUNE 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Scott Kermode (Chair), Councillor Tim Bower (Deputy Chair), Councillor Margaret O'Connor (01:15pm), Councillor Paul Packham and Councillor Dorothy Robinson

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

General Manager – Tim Weeks  
Chief Financial Officer – Laurie Knight

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Lara Gresham

**Resolved:**

**16/23** That the apology of Cr. Lara Gresham be accepted and leave of absence granted.

**Moved:** Councillor Robinson **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

The **motion** put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD 15 AUGUST 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

**Resolved:**

**25/23** That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England County Council held on 27 June 2023 commencing at 1:00pm, which have been distributed to all members, are taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

**Moved** Councillor O'Connor

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

The **motion** on being put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**NOTE:** That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England County Council held on 27 June 2023, also contained the minutes of meeting for the following dates:

- Tuesday 7 March 2023
- Tuesday 17 April 2023, and
- Tuesday 2 May 2023

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING  
OF NEW ENGLAND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 27 JUNE 2023**

**Resolved:**

**26/23** That that Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the New England County Council held on Tuesday 17 April 2023 and *deferred* by way of Resolution **18/23**, be considered at the next Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 21 November 2023.

**Moved** Councillor O'Connor

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

The **Motion** on being put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ANNUAL DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023**

**Resolution:**

- 27/23**
1. That Council note the completion of the Draft Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023, and the details contained in this report;
  2. That the Chair, Deputy Chair and General Manager/Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised to sign the Councillor and Management Statement, and;
  3. That the draft Financial Statements be referred for audit in accordance with Section 413 and 416 of the Local Government Act 1993.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD 15 AUGUST 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

**Resolution 27/23 Continued:**

**Moved** Councillor Robinson

**Seconded:** Councillor O'Connor

The **Motion** on being put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**REPORT ON COUNCIL INVESTMENTS HELD AT 31 JULY 2023**

**Resolution:**

**28/23** That Council receive and note the Report on Council Investments held at 31 July 2023, in accordance with Sec 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, and clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and Council's Investment Policy.

**Moved** Councillor Packham

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

The **Motion** on being put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS OF OFFICE AND DEPOT**

**Resolution:**

**29/23** That Members receive and note the contents of the Construction Report, the Construction program and the financial status of the office and depot construction project.

**Moved** Councillor Bower

**Seconded:** Councillor Robinson

The **Motion** on being put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**MATTERS OF URGENCY**

The General Manager tabled correspondence received from the General Manager of the Upper Hunter County Council and dated 15 August 2023, expressing concern about a yet unconfirmed proposal to reduce funding to the Department of Primary Industry (DPI), and its impact on the WAP funding.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD 15 AUGUST 2023 IN NEWA OFFICES

**Resolution:**

**30/23** That the General Manager should write to each constituent council providing this correspondence and advising that when further information is available, suggesting that each constituent council write to the Minister expressing concern regarding any cut to WAP funding and it's adverse impact on the rural community.

**Moved** Councillor O'Connor

**Seconded:** Councillor Bower

The **Motion** on being put to the **Vote** was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2023 at 1:00PM**

**MEETING CLOSED - 02:36pm**