

UPPER LACHLAN SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 31 JULY 2023

PRESENT: Mayor P Kensit (Chairperson), Cr P Culhane, Cr D O'Brien, Cr J Searl, Cr M McDonald, Cr N McDonald, Cr S Reynolds, Ms A Waldron (Chief Executive Officer), Mr L Kruger (Director of Infrastructure), Mr A Croke (Director Finance and Administration), Mr S Arkinstall (Acting Director of Environment & Planning) and Mrs K Bowerman (Acting Executive Assistant).

VIDEO LINK: Cr L Woodbridge.

THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING OPEN AT 4.03PM

Mayor Kensit advised no public gallery today as confidential meeting.

Mayor Kensit advised that the meeting is being webcast live and audio recorded before and after the meeting in accordance with Council Code of Meeting Practice.

An acknowledgement of Country was read to the meeting by the Mayor.

SECTION 1: APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

An apology was received from Cr J Marshall.

145/23 **RESOLVED** by O'Brien and Cr Reynolds that the apology be received and a leave of absence granted.

- CARRIED

Councillors who voted for:- Crs P Kensit, M McDonald, P Culhane, N McDonald, D O'Brien, S Reynolds, J Searl and L Woodbridge

Councillors who voted against:- Nil

SECTION 2: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

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CLOSED COUNCIL ITEMS

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, the following business is of a kind as referred to in 10A (2) 2d(i) of the Act and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the public and the media.

***Note:** Pursuant to Clause 25(1) of the Local Government (Meetings) Regulation, Council invites verbal representation by members of the public about whether the items listed below should not be considered by Council in a Closed Meeting. The items are:*

146/23 **RESOLVED** by Cr Searl and Cr Reynolds

1. That Council move into closed Council to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting.
2. That pursuant to section 10A (2) 2d(i) of the Local Government Act 1993: the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A (2) as outlined above.
3. That the report relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993.

- CARRIED

Councillors who voted for:- Crs P Kensit, M McDonald, P Culhane, N McDonald, D O'Brien, S Reynolds, J Searl and L Woodbridge

Councillors who voted against:- Nil

Council closed its meeting at 4.05pm.

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147/23 **RESOLVED** by Cr O'Brien and Cr Reynolds

That Council move out of closed Council and into open Council.

- CARRIED

Councillors who voted for:- Crs P Kensit, M McDonald, P
Culhane, N McDonald, D
O'Brien, S Reynolds, J Searl and
L Woodbridge

Councillors who voted against:- Nil

Open Council resumed at 4.26pm.

Resolutions from the Closed Council Meeting

The following resolutions of Council, while the meeting was closed to the public, were read to the meeting by the Mayor.

SECTION 3: CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

**ITEM 19.1 PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF FUNDING TO COMMENCE THE
SPECIAL RATES VARIATION TO GENERAL INCOME PROCESS**

148/23 **RESOLVED** by Cr Culhane and Cr O'Brien

1. Council allocate funding of \$115,000 (GST Exclusive) in the 2023/2024 Operational Plan to engage the services of a consultant to prepare a Financial Sustainability Review, Long Term Financial Plan gap analysis and Asset Management Strategy gap analysis on Council business operations. In addition, prepare a capacity to pay report, Resourcing Strategy updates, community engagement and prepare the application for a Special Rate Variation to General Income addressing the IPART special variation assessment criteria.
2. Council's Director of Finance and Administration enter into direct commercial negotiations for the purpose to engage the services of AEC Group Ltd to undertake the Financial Sustainability

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Review and other associated analysis reports to support a Special Rate Variation application.

3. Council provides in principle support for the intention to apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for a special variation to general ordinary rates income in accordance with Section 508A, of the Local Government Act 1993. The special variation is proposed to take effect in the 2024/2025 financial year.

- CARRIED

Councillors who voted for:- Crs P Kensit, M McDonald, P Culhane, N McDonald, D O'Brien, S Reynolds, J Searl and L Woodbridge

Councillors who voted against:- Nil

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.27PM

Minutes confirmed 17 AUGUST 2023

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Mayor