

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE &
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF
THE NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
46-48 MAITLAND STREET, NARRABRI, ON
WEDNESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER, 2007.**

PRESENT: Cr CM Bolton (Chair), Cr KI Bates, Cr PA Etheridge, Cr TD Fragar, Cr RE Gleeson, Cr RC Lowder, Cr AJ Meppem, Cr GB O'Regan, Cr RHG Panton OAM, and Cr GA Sevil.

The General Manager (Mr MJ Kershaw), Director Corporate Services (Mr GA Warren), Director Engineering Services (Mr PJ Keech), Council's Finance Manager (Mr Brett Williams) and Council's Administration Officer (Ms A Harrison) were also in attendance.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 10.13AM.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

C20/32001

CR GLEESON NOMINATED CR BOLTON FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FINANCE & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE. CR BOLTON INDICATED HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOMINATION.

AS THERE WERE NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, THE GENERAL MANAGER, ACTING AS RETURNING OFFICER, DECLARED CR BOLTON ELECTED AS CHAIR OF THE FINANCE & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING 12 MONTHS.

CR MEPPEM NOMINATED CR GLEESON FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE. CR GLEESON INDICATED HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOMINATION.

CR PANTON NOMINATED HIMSELF FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE.

CR GLEESON THEN WITHDREW HIS NOMINATION.

AS THERE WERE NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, THE GENERAL MANAGER, ACTING AS RETURNING OFFICER, DECLARED CR PANTON ELECTED AS CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING 12 MONTHS.

CR GLEESON NOMINATED CR MEPPEM FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. CR MEPPEM INDICATED HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOMINATION.

AS THERE WERE NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, THE GENERAL MANAGER, ACTING AS RETURNING OFFICER, DECLARED CR MEPPEM ELECTED AS CHAIR OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING 12 MONTHS.

CR ETHERIDGE NOMINATED CR LOWDER FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ROADS & FLEET COMMITTEE. CR LOWDER INDICATED HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOMINATION.

AS THERE WERE NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, THE GENERAL MANAGER, ACTING AS RETURNING OFFICER, DECLARED CR LOWDER ELECTED AS CHAIR OF THE ROADS & FLEET COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING 12 MONTHS.

APOLOGIES

766/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Lowder that the apologies from Cr DJ Laird and Cr SJ Rae for non-attendance at the meeting not be accepted and that leave of absence not be granted.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

C70/08001

Nil

ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE TO RESOLVE

1. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REPORT (KS:KS) [CORP]

C20/32001

767/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Etheridge that the Finance & Governance Committee receive and note the information in relation to the Capital Expenditure Report for the period ending 26th October, 2007.

2. SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS (GAW:KTK) [CORP]

F10/08004

768/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Etheridge that Council note that the current period investments are higher than investments for the same period last year and actual interest earned is higher than budgeted interest. The performance assessment for investment funds, as specified in the 2007/2008 Financial Year Management Plan, has been met.

ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL

3. CARRYOVERS & RESTRICTIONS (BAW: BAW) [CORP] F10/02003

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Meppem and seconded by Cr Panton that Council approve the works to be carried over as presented and the restricted asset balances shown as at 30 June 2007.

4. STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES (SES) (MJK:AH) [GM] E10/10007

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gleeson and seconded by Cr Bates that Council endorse the appointment for a two (2) year period commencing 1st July, 2007 of:

- Mr Tony Battam as the Narrabri Shire Local SES Controller.
- Mr Geoff Eather as the SES Unit Controller for Boggabri.
- Mr John Welsh as the SES Unit Controller for Wee Waa.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Bates and seconded by Cr Meppem that Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to assist the Namoi Regional SES in the appointment of a SES Unit Controller for Pilliga.

5. BOGGABRI SESQUICENTENARY COMMITTEE (MJK:AH) [GM] C10/05026

769/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bates and seconded by Cr Etheridge that the report on the establishment of the Boggabri Sesquicentenary Committee following the Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23rd October, 2007 be received and noted.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gleeson and seconded by Cr Lowder that Council endorse the Boggabri Sesquicentenary Committee as a Committee of Council under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, 1993 with the objectives of that Committee being:

- The promotion of and all necessary actions associated with the preparation of and actual celebration of Boggabri's sesquicentenary event.
- To pursue additional funding, both corporate and governmental grants, to enhance this celebration.
- To coopt other local community organisations and individuals as necessary in the promotion of the objectives of this celebratory event.

6. NAMOI ROC MEETING (MJK:KAB) [GM] C80/05002

770/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Gleeson and seconded by Cr Etheridge that the report on the NamoiROC meeting held in Narrabri on Thursday 6th September, 2007 be received and noted.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gleeson and seconded by Cr Lowder that Council indicate to NamoiROC that it does not wish to become a member of HCI.

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2007 F10/02005
(BAW:BAW) [CORP]

771/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Etheridge and seconded by Cr Meppem that Council approve the budget variations arising as a result of the September 2007 quarterly review.

772/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Bates that pursuant to section 407(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council adopts the quarterly review report covering the period July, 2007 to September, 2007 as presented.

8. PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS (KAB:KAB) [GM] C70/08001

773/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr O'Regan that the tabling of the Ordinary Pecuniary Interest Returns of Councillors and designated staff for the period of 1st July, 2006 to 30th June, 2007 be received and noted.

9. APOLOGY BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLORS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS C70/16001
(MJK:AH) [GM]

774/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Meppem and seconded by Cr Panton that the report on the apology by individual Councillors for Council meetings be received and noted.

775/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Gleeson and seconded by Cr Lowder that Council prepare a draft policy on the lodgement of apologies by Councillors for consideration at a future Council meeting.

10. CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP O10/52004
(GAW:AH) [CORP]

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gleeson and seconded by Cr Etheridge that Council authorise staff to investigate alternative library models as opposed to the Central Northern Regional Library Structure and report those findings to a subsequent committee meeting.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Gleeson that once the Committee assessment has been completed, that Council invite the State Librarian in charge of Public Libraries as well as the Chairman and Executive of the CNRL to address Council at a future Council meeting to clarify possible options available to Council.

WEE WAA TOILET FACILITY FOR MAIN STREET CBD AREA**S20/06010**

Following discussion on a proposed notice of motion from Cr Fragar a motion was moved by Cr Fragar and seconded by Cr Panton that Council investigate the need for, and possible options to establish, a public toilet facility in a suitable site within the Wee Waa CBD area.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Fragar and seconded by Cr Panton that Council investigate the need for, and possible options to establish, a public toilet facility in a suitable site within the Wee Waa CBD area.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.29AM.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS**APOLOGIES**

766/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Lowder that the apologies from Cr DJ Laird and Cr SJ Rae for non-attendance at the meeting not be accepted and that leave of absence not be granted.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REPORT (KS:KS) [CORP]**C20/32001**

767/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Etheridge that the Finance & Governance Committee receive and note the information in relation to the Capital Expenditure Report for the period ending 26th October, 2007.

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS (GAW:KTK) [CORP]**F10/08004**

768/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Panton and seconded by Cr Etheridge that Council note that the current period investments are higher than investments for the same period last year and actual interest earned is higher than budgeted interest. The performance assessment for investment funds, as specified in the 2007/2008 Financial Year Management Plan, has been met.

BOGGABRI SESQUICENTENARY COMMITTEE (MJK:AH) [GM]**C10/05026**

769/2007 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bates and seconded by Cr Etheridge that the report on the establishment of the Boggabri Sesquicentenary Committee following the Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23rd October, 2007 be received and noted.

NAMOIROC MEETING (MJK:KAB) [GM]**C80/05002**

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FINANCIAL REVIEW AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2007**(BAW:BAW) [CORP]****F10/02005**

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PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS (KAB:KAB) [GM]**C70/08001**

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APOLOGY BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLORS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS (MJK:AH) [GM]**C70/16001**

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER, 2007**C20/32001**

RECOMMENDATION 1: That the minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Wednesday 7th November, 2007 comprising of minute numbers 766/2007 to 775/2007 as circularised, be confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Mayor and General Manager.

CARRYOVERS & RESTRICTIONS (BAW: BAW) [CORP]**F10/02003**

RECOMMENDATION 2: That Council approve the works to be carried over as presented and the restricted asset balances shown as at 30 June 2007.

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES (SES) (MJK:AH) [GM]**E10/10007**

RECOMMENDATION 3: That Council endorse the appointment for a two (2) year period commencing 1st July, 2007 of:

- Mr Tony Battam as the Narrabri Shire Local SES Controller.
- Mr Geoff Eather as the SES Unit Controller for Boggabri.
- Mr John Welsh as the SES Unit Controller for Wee Waa.

RECOMMENDATION 4: That Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to assist the Namoi Regional SES in the appointment of a SES Unit Controller for Pilliga.

BOGGABRI SESQUICENTENARY COMMITTEE (MJK:AH) [GM]**C10/05026**

RECOMMENDATION 5: That Council endorse the Boggabri Sesquicentenary Committee as a Committee of Council under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, 1993 with the objectives of that Committee being:

- The promotion of and all necessary actions associated with the preparation of and actual celebration of Boggabri's sesquicentenary event.
- To pursue additional funding, both corporate and governmental grants, to enhance this celebration.
- To coopt other local community organisations and individuals as necessary in the promotion of the objectives of this celebratory event.

NAMOI ROC MEETING (MJK:KAB) [GM]**C80/05002**

RECOMMENDATION 6: That Council indicate to NamoiROC that it does not wish to become a member of HCI.

**CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP
(GAW:AH) [CORP]****O10/52004**

RECOMMENDATION 7: That Council authorise staff to investigate alternative library models as opposed to the Central Northern Regional Library Structure and report those findings to a subsequent committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION 8: That once the Committee assessment has been completed, that Council invite the State Librarian in charge of Public Libraries as well as the Chairman and Executive of the CNRL to address Council at a future Council meeting to clarify possible options available to Council.

WEE WAA TOILET FACILITY FOR MAIN STREET CBD AREA

S20/06010

RECOMMENDATION 9: That Council investigate the need for, and possible options to establish, a public toilet facility in a suitable site within the Wee Waa CBD area.

Cr CM Bolton

CHAIR