

Extraordinary Council Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 8 October 2024



Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday, 8 October 2024 at the
Parkes Council Chamber, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes

Present:

Cr Neil Westcott	Councillor
Cr Marg Applebee	Councillor
Cr William Jayet	Councillor
Cr Ken McGrath	Councillor
Cr Louise O'Leary	Councillor
Cr Joy Paddison	Councillor
Cr Douglas Pout	Councillor
Cr George Pratt	Councillor
Cr Matthew Scherer	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mr Kent Boyd PSM	General Manager
Mr Jaco Barnard	Chief Financial Officer
Mr Andrew Francis	Director Infrastructure and Sustainability
Mr Brendan Hayes	Director Planning and Community Services
Mr Logan Hignett	Director Operations
Mr Anthony McGrath	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy
Mrs Nikki Bevan	Acting Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance
Mrs Veronica Shaw	Business Support Officer

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 2:00 pm and concluded at 2:35 pm.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The General Manager declared the Extraordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 8 October 2024 open and welcomed Councillors, Council Officers and members of the public attending and listening to the meeting.

The General Manager advised attendees that the meeting was being recorded and streamed live on the internet, to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Parkes Shire community, and that the recording will be archived and made available on Council's website.

The General Manager asked that attendees ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices were turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

The General Manager further advised that all care would be taken to maintain privacy, however, as a visitor in the public gallery, members of the public should be aware that their presence may be recorded.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Director Infrastructure and Sustainability, Andrew Francis read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Wiradjuri Country and recognises and respects their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the lands and rivers of the Parkes Shire.

Council pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extends this respect to all First Nations peoples in the Parkes Shire.

3 PRAYER

The Director Planning and Community Services, Brendan Hayes read the Prayer:

O God,
Inspire Council to make wise decisions,
Grant Integrity to face the truth,
Courage to make difficult choices,
And compassion for the needs of others,
We pray through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

AMEN

4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 APPLICATIONS TO ATTEND BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Nil

6 COUNCILLORS OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

Under the *Local Government Act 1993* Councillors are required to take an oath or make an affirmation of office, to be entitled to participate in Council meetings.

Accordingly, all 10 Councillors were present and were asked to individually to come forward (in alphabetical order), and asked to take either the Oath of Office or make an Affirmation of Office, as outlined below.

Oath or Affirmation of the following Councillors:

Margaret Ellen Applebee

William Peter Jayet

Kenneth Maxwell McGrath

Louise Anne O'Leary

Joy Paddison

Douglas James Anthony Pout

George William Pratt

Matthew Keith Scherer

Neil Clifford Westcott

Glenn Stewart Wilson

Upon taking the Oath or the making of an Affirmation of Office, each Councillor immediately signed the Oath or Affirmation in the presence of their fellow Councillors, the General Manager and the gallery. The General Manager also counter signed the Oath/Affirmation and retained them, so they can be copied for the Council's records. The original documents will be returned to Councillors at a subsequent meeting of Council.

The Councillors were congratulated on being elected as the new term of Councillors for the next four (4) years.

7 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

The Mayor reminded Councillors and Council Officers of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Councillors and Council Officers to disclose any such interests.

Nil interests were disclosed.

8 LATE BUSINESS

The Chair advised that no late items of business had been submitted to the meeting.

9 ADOPTION OF MULTIPLE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business, as recommended in the report, by way of a single resolution. The Chairperson must list the items of business to be adopted and ask Councillors to identify any individual items of business listed by the Chairperson that they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the Business Paper, or that they wish to speak on (13.2).

Nil multiple items of business were identified.

10 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

10.1 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR - 2024

RESOLVED ECMCC 001/24

Moved with the amendment to Item 3: Cr Marg Applebee
Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

That Council:

1. Note the information on the process for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be held at the 8 October 2024 Extraordinary Council meeting.
 2. Elect a Deputy Mayor for the same term as the Mayor.
 3. Adopt the Ordinary Ballot system of voting if an election is required for the position of Mayor or Deputy Mayor.
 4. Record the names of the successful candidates for Mayor and Deputy Mayor in the minutes for this meeting.
- CARRIED**
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RESOLVED ECMCC 002/24

Motion Moved: Cr Marg Applebee
Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

In moving the motion, Councillor Applebee amended point 3 from "the Ordinary Ballot system" to "the show of hands system/open voting" in line with requests from members of the public for more transparency.

That:

1. Note the information on the process for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be held at the 8 October 2024 Extraordinary Council meeting.
2. Elect a Deputy Mayor for the same term as the Mayor.
3. Adopt the show of hands/open voting system of voting if an election is required for the position of Mayor or Deputy Mayor.
4. Record the names of the successful candidates for Mayor and Deputy Mayor in the minutes for this meeting.

Councillor Neil Westcott was declared Mayor for the ensuing 2 year period with 7 votes to 3 votes received by Councillor Glenn Wilson.

Councillor Marg Applebee was declared Deputy Mayor with 7 votes to 3 votes received by Councillor Ken McGrath.

Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee both thanked the Parkes constituents, their fellow councillors, previous Councillors Daniel Weber, Jacob Cass and Ken Keith, and

thanked their families. Mayor Westcott also addressed the accusations levelled at council during the election and noted that the Council has self-reported all these allegations to the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) to be investigated.

CARRIED

11 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY

11.1 USE OF A COUNTBACK TO FILL A CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCY

RESOLVED ECMCC 003/24

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 291A(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993, declare that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a councillor within 18 months after the last ordinary election of councillors for the Council on 14 September 2024, are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with section 291A of the Act and directs the General Manager to notify the Electoral Commissioner for NSW of Council's decision within 7 days of this decision.

CARRIED

11.2 2024 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION RESULTS FOR PARKES SHIRE COUNCILLORS AND DECLARATION OF THE POLL

RESOLVED ECMCC 004/24

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr George Pratt

That Council:

1. Notes the official results of the election for Councillors held on 14th September 2024 as published on the NSW Electoral Commission website on 30 September 2024.

CARRIED

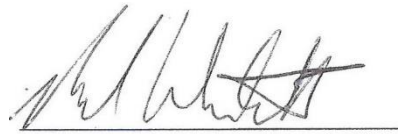
12 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

13 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 2:35pm.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 7 pages numbered 1 to 8 of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 8 October 2024.



MAYOR