

Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday 15 July 2025



Minutes of the Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee**Held on Tuesday, 15 July 2025 at the****Cooke Park Pavilion, 17 Welcome Street, Parkes****Present:**

Cr Neil Westcott	Mayor
Cr Marg Applebee	Deputy Chair
Cr William Jayet	Councillor
Cr Joy Paddison	Councillor
Cr Doug Pout	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor
Mr Andrew Rice	Chair
Ms Kristy Berry	
Mr Peter Giles	
Mr Andrew Hall	
Ms Kelly Hendry	
Mr Steve Lindsay	
Ms Tracie Robertson	
Mrs Marty Sammut-Paul	

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mr Kent Boyd	General Manager
Mr Anthony McGrath	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy
Mr Hamish Ritchie	Economic Development Specialist
Mr Brendan Shipley	Festivals Producer
Ms Bronte Thompson	Business Services Trainee

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 10:00am and concluded at 11:29am.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson will declare the meeting open.

Meeting of Council committees are not recorded or streamed to the internet.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders past, present and emerging of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal peoples from other nations who are present.

3 APOLOGIES

In accordance with clauses 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, apologies must be received and accepted from absent Councillors and a leave of absence from the Council Meeting may be granted.

Ms Treen Swift, Ms Lisa Moon and Ms Carolina Cruz were apologies for the meeting.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE ECONOMY, DESTINATION AND EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 JUNE 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17 June 2025 appended at *Annexure A*.

The committee noted this item did not require discussion.

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

All Council Officials must disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting.

Council's Code of Conduct deals with pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflicts of interest and political donations, and provides guidance on how these issues should be managed.

Council Officials must be familiar with Council's Code of Conduct and their obligations to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest that they may have in matters being considered at this Council Meeting.

Nil disclosures were made.

Note: Council Officials who declare an Interest at the Meeting are also required to complete a Declaration of Interest form.

6 LATE BUSINESS**7 OFFICERS' REPORTS****7.1 REVIEW OF COMPARABLE SEARS - WASTE TO ENERGY****RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. The Committee receive and review the attached example Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) documents relating to Waste from Energy projects.
2. Identify any key insights, considerations, or potential recommendations for Council's consideration regarding future engagement or advocacy on Energy from Waste proposals.

Discussion

Chair asked if any feedback from committee members on the SEARs circulated, no comments offered. In lieu of this, Chair requested that members email any subsequent feedback to Hamish to pass onto Kent Boyd.

7.2 DISCUSSION - COMMITTEE PURPOSE AND FUNCTION GOING FORWARD**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. The Committee engage in a discussion to review the intended role, structure, and focus of the Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee and provide feedback to Council on how meetings can be most effective and productive.

Discussion

All committee members discussed how the committee could function most effectively in the future.

The discussions included:

- The first couple of committee meetings do take time and a bit to get going. It is a great idea for Council to go into the committee to get an overview and ideas for the committee. It is an opportunity for committee members to express their ideas, thoughts, and actions to then build a strategy.
- The council's policy for Councillors in this committee was brought to the attention by one of the committee members, as it states that councillors are to observe. It was agreed by all in attendance to put forward the policy and update it to include councillors to participate. Chairman forwarded and Seconder Mr Steve Linday.
- When the committee gathers for their meetings, it is a time to engage with one another as a committee, and everyone is encouraged to say what they feel. All committee members are valued, and Parkes Shire Council wants to hear from one another.
- All committee members, including Councillors, agreed to be named as committee members instead of their official names.
- The agenda for each meeting needs to be more orientated. Allowing time for all committee members to gather information and ideas.

- The format of the meetings was discussed, and stated that they do not need to reflect on all the items of the agenda, not everything needs a discussion. A fairly simple agenda and a large amount of time for discussions.
- Committee members agreed on bringing business items to the meeting. An idea for the business papers could include expressions of interest, things they see around town, ideas, plans that are coming up, just to name a few. These are ideas that members could bring forward and allow a discussion on the item. These items can be sent to Mr Hamish Ritchie at any time. He stated he will send out an email four weeks out to the committee meeting reminding them that they have a week left to send any items through.
- They are to be sent to Mr Hamish Ritchie via email four weeks in advance of the committee meeting, and the agenda item ideas close three weeks before the committee meeting.
- The timeframe of the agenda was discussed. It was agreed by all committee members to receive the agenda two weeks in advance of the meeting.
- The frequency of meetings was brought up and discussed, as quarterly meetings are not doable. It was agreed upon to meet bi-monthly, meaning to change the four meetings a year to six.
- Another requested action item included the agenda to include the trio report (Economy, Destination and Events). Forward thinking and ideally linked to topics of conversations.
- Committee members stated they have discussions here, but never find out what happens next. For example, grants for events.
- Information and resources regarding the committee meeting, such as a slideshows, can be sent out before the meeting to allow more time for the presenter to discuss and allow discussions with one another. This was agreed by all committee members in attendance.
- Mr Hamish Ritchie, who may require feedback, but it is still weeks away until the next committee meeting, is it possible to send the committee members an email requesting their feedback? All committee members agreed that they are happy to receive emails and provide feedback.
- Data insight would be good for this meeting to see what is going well. The data could include things that are going well or things that need to change, for example.
- What the next agenda would look like was discussed. Agenda item on Alignment to allow a discussion on ideas about how we can create a better alignment between the council, businesses, and the chamber of commerce. Another item would be the Energy from Waste impact to allow discussion on how to engage with the impact that the discourse around energy from waste is having on businesses.
- A few committee members brought up past associations with the council and their businesses. The promotion of past events on social media, window signs, and overall engagement with what is going on in our Shire and businesses. There are events nowadays where community members are unaware of what's going on. They stated in previous years that they had a contact list of the person in charge of Shop Parkes, events, and social media, which was great and brought the community together and the culture. It was stated by another committee member that the council's website is currently undergoing those updates in the background, and those details will be updated and included on the website.

The meeting concluded on time.

8 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.
