

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, DARLINGTON POINT  
ON THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 10.00AM**

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The General Manager paid respect to the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of Murrumbidgee Local Government Area, and to all Aboriginal Elders, past and present and emerging.

**RECORDING & WEBCASTING OF MEETING**

The General Manager advised those present the meeting is being recorded and the audio recording will be placed on Council's website. By speaking at a Council or Committee Meeting, members of the public agree to being recorded and webcast.

**OATH OR AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS**

The General Manager presided over the Councillor Oath or Affirmation.

**PRESENT**

Present were Councillors R McRae, R Black, F Bryce, T Mauger, C Chirgwin, T Strachan, R Curphey, J Saxvik and H Heath.

Also present was General Manager, John Scarce, Director Planning & Infrastructure, Garry Stoll and Chief Financial Officer, Kaitlin Salzke.

**APOLOGIES**

NIL

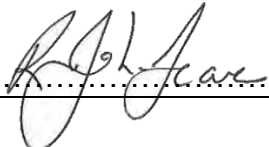
**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**102/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Chirgwin and Mauger that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 August 2024, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

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.....General Manager .....Mayor

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**PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

Pecuniary interest declarations were received from Councillor Christine Chirgwin in relation to item 10 – Conversion of Lease and Councillor Robert Curphey in relation to item 8 – Request to Remove Trees at Darlington Point Club.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**OATH OR AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS SC51**

**103/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Black and Curphey that it be recorded in the Minutes:

Taking of the Oath of Office – Councillors McRae, Strachan, Black, Bryce, Chirgwin

Making of the Affirmation of Office – Councillors Heath, Mauger, Saxvik, Curphey

**CARRIED**

**ELECTION OF MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR SC53**

**104/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Mauger and Strachan that:

- (a) the method of election for the Office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor be by way of ordinary ballot; and
- (b) the Deputy Mayor be elected for a 2 year term.

The General Manager, as Returning Officer for the Mayoral election, advised that one nomination had been received for the Office of Mayor, that being Councillor Ruth McRae.

The Returning Officer announced that Councillor Ruth McRae be duly declared elected to the Office of Mayor of Murrumbidgee Council.

The Returning Officer advised that one nomination had been received for the Office of Deputy Mayor, being Councillor Robert Black.

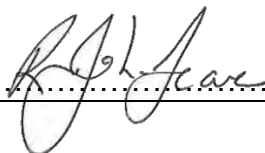
The Returning Officer announced that Councillor Robert Black be duly declared elected to the Office of Deputy Mayor of Murrumbidgee Council for a 2 year term.

Mayor McRae and Deputy Mayor Black extended congratulations and welcomed new Councillor Hayley Heath. Congratulations and appreciation were also extended to returning Councillors Bryce, Mauger, Strachan, Chirgwin, Curphey and Saxvik.

**CARRIED**

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.....General Manager .....Mayor

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**DELEGATIONS FROM COUNCIL TO THE GENERAL MANAGER AND MAYOR** **SC54**

**105/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Black and Curphey that Council, in accordance with Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, by resolution at its meeting on 3 October 2024, delegates its power, authorities and function as set out in Part 1 of the Act – Delegations of Authority Register to the General Manager and Mayor.

**CARRIED**

**COUNCILLOR INDUCTION & PROGRESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS** **SC51/SC58**

**106/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Strachan and Bryce that the contents of the Councillor Induction and Professional Development Programs Report be noted, and the General Manager:

- a) Prepare relevant induction training for the Mayor and Councillors;
- b) In consultation with the Mayor and Councillors, develop training plans for delivery over the term of the Council.

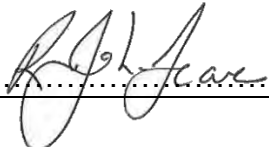
**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES** **SC64**

**107/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Saxvik and Curphey that Council representatives be appointed to Standing and Special Committees, Section 355 Committees, Advisory, External and Internal Committees, as detailed below, with the removal of the CICL/Coleambally Environmental and Reference Committee (CERC) (in recess), Balmeringa Management Committee, The Riverina (Thrive Riverina) and the inclusion of the Sturt Highway Taskforce and Darlington Point Early Learning Centre Committees:

<b>Standing and Special Committees of Council</b>	
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Councillor Representation</b>
Internal Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee	Cr Mauger and 2 independents-at least one with financial expertise
General Manager's Review Committee	Mayor and Deputy Mayor
Traffic Committee	Cr Black (Chair) (alternate Cr Curphey) Voting Delegate – Senior Technical Officer, Zack Walsh Betsy Farrugia to represent Member for Murray, Helen Dalton MP
Local Emergency Management Committee	Cr Black (alternate Cr McRae)

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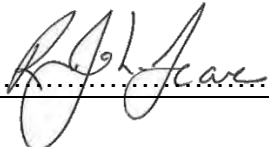
..........General Manager .....Mayor

<b>Section 355 Committees of Council</b>	
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Councillor Representation</b>
Coleambally Australia Day Committee	Cr Chirgwin
Jerilderie Australia Day Committee	Cr McRae, Cr Bryce
Coleambally Townlife Committee	Cr Chirgwin, Cr Strachan
Darlington Point Townlife / Australia Day Committee	Cr Saxvik, Cr Heath
Heritage Darlington Point	Cr Saxvik
Central Coree Sports Complex Management Committee	Cr Mauger
Yamma Recreation Reserve Management Committee	Cr Chirgwin
Jerilderie Tidy Towns Committee	Cr Bryce, Cr McRae

<b>Advisory Committee</b>	
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Councillor Representation</b>
Monash Park Users	Cr Mauger, Cr McRae
Coleambally Sports Precinct Advisory Committee	Cr Black (alternate Cr Chirgwin and Cr Strachan)
Boat Ramp Darlington Point-Advisory Committee	Cr Curphey, Cr Saxvik and Cr Heath
Darlington Point Master Landuse Plan Advisory Committee	Mayor, Cr Curphey, Cr Heath, Cr Saxvik
Darlington Point Caravan Park Committee	Mayor, Cr Saxvik, Cr Heath
Darlington Point Floodplain Risk Management Committee (formerly DP Levee Committee)	Cr Curphey, Cr Heath, Cr Saxvik
Darlington Point Early Learning Centre Committee	Cr Saxvik and Cr Heath

<b>External Committees with Council Representation</b>	
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Councillor Representation</b>
Kidman Way Promotional Committee	Cr McRae (voting delegate) (alternate Cr Chirgwin)
Newell Highway Promotional Committee	Mayor (alternate Deputy Mayor)
Newell Highway Taskforce Committee	Mayor (alternate Deputy Mayor)
Sturt Highway Taskforce Committee	Mayor (alternate Deputy Mayor)
Berrigan Jerilderie Community Network	Cr McRae
Murray Darling Association	Mayor (alternate Deputy Mayor)
Western Riverina Libraries Committee	Cr Chirgwin (voting delegate)
South West Zone Library Committee	Cr Bryce
Roads and Maritime Services Consultative Committee	Mayor (alternate Deputy Mayor)

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.......... General Manager ..... Mayor

RAMJO	Mayor (alternate Deputy Mayor)
Valleys Spot On Spray Group	Cr Mauger (alternate Cr Black)
Western Region Joint Planning Panel	Mayor and Deputy Mayor ( <b>this is a 3 year appointment - 23 December 2021 to 22 December 2024</b> )

Internal Council Committee	
Committee Name	Councillor Representation
Scholarship Committee	Council as a whole
Community Grants Committee	Council as a whole

**COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024/25**

**SC218**

**108/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Strachan and Bryce that:

- a) Council schedule monthly Council meetings for the fourth Tuesday of October and November 2024 and fourth Tuesdays of February 2025 to September 2025;
- b) The December Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on the third Tuesday of the month, Tuesday 17 December 2024.
- c) Council meetings commence at 2.00pm;
- d) The meeting venues alternate between Jerilderie, Darlington Point and Coleambally, as follows:  
  - Coleambally – October 2024, and February, May and August 2025
  - Jerilderie - November 2024, and March, June, September 2025
  - Darlington Point – December 2024; April and July 2025

**CARRIED**

**GENERAL MANAGER’S MONTHLY REPORT**

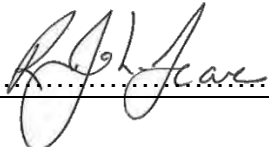
**SC218**

**109/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Chirgwin and Curphey that the information contained in the General Manager’s monthly report be noted, and:

- the annual strategic workshop be held in Albury commencing Friday 31 January, concluding Sunday 2 February 2025;
- the General Manager’s annual leave be authorised from 30 October to 5 November 2024.

**CARRIED**

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..........General Manager .....Mayor

**REQUEST TO REMOVE TREES AT DARLINGTON POINT CLUB CY8**

Councillor Robert Curphey declared his pecuniary interest in this matter and departed the building.

**110/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Saxvik and Strachan that:

1. The request to remove 12 London Plane trees from the Darlington Point Club Ltd carpark and clubrooms area be refused until such time as a licensed and qualified arborist report has been lodged with Council, confirming that the London Plane trees have reached the end of their effective lives and that they are diseased and/or cannot be rehabilitated and should be removed.
2. Upon receipt of such a report, Council to further consider removal of the trees.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Curphey returned to the meeting.

**CROWN LANDS PLAN OF MANAGEMENT – JERILDERIE COMMON AND JERILDERIE STOCK ROUTE SC119**

**111/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Mauger and Chirgwin that Murrumbidgee Council adopt the generic Plan of Management for the Jerilderie Common and Jerilderie Stock Route.

**CARRIED**

**CONVERSION OF LEASE SC79**

Councillor Christine Chirgwin declared her pecuniary interest in this matter and departed the building.

**112/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Curphey and Bryce that:

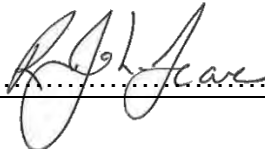
1. Council authorise the General Manager to negotiate the conversion of Lot 280 DP 255769 at the 1 July 2022 land value, with Council’s legal fees and stamp duty to be paid by the lessee;
2. The conversion settlement is to be paid in full;
3. Council authorise the General Manager to execute the required document.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Chirgwin returned to the meeting.

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.....General Manager .....Mayor

## REPORTS/MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

NIL

## OFFICERS' REPORTS FOR NOTING

### MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT – AUGUST 2024

SC133

**113/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Black and Bryce that Council note the monthly Investment Report identifying all money Council has invested under Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**CARRIED**

### 2023/24 DELIVERY PROGRAM REVIEW

SC241

**114/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Mauger and Curphey that the progress report on the Murrumbidgee Council Delivery Program to 30 June 2024, be noted.

**CARRIED**

### DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION APPROVED UNDER DELEGATION, AUGUST 2024

SC210

**115/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Strachan and Mauger that the information contained in the Development Application Approved Under Delegation, August 2024 Report be noted.

**CARRIED**

## CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

SC194

**116/10/24** **Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Curphey and Saxvik that this item be referred to the **CONFIDENTIAL** section of the Extraordinary Council Meeting which is closed to the public. This item is classified as confidential in accordance with Section 10A (2) (e) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

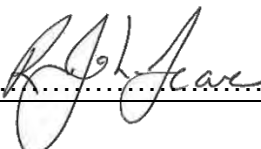
e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

**CARRIED**

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.....General Manager .....Mayor

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**WADDI HOUSING LAND SWAP FOR LONG DAY CARE**

**SC218**

**117/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Curphey and Saxvik that this item be referred to the **CONFIDENTIAL** section of the Extraordinary Council Meeting which is closed to the public. This item is classified as confidential in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) (ii) and (iii) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
  - ii. Confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council
  - iii. Reveal a trade secret

**CARRIED**

**YOUNG STREET SUBDIVISION – ELECTRICAL RETICULATION SC610**

**118/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Curphey and Saxvik that this item be referred to the **CONFIDENTIAL** section of the Extraordinary Council Meeting which is closed to the public. This item is classified as confidential in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) (i) and (iii) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
  - i. Prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it;
  - iii. Reveal a trade secret

**CARRIED**

Council closed its meeting to the public at 11.36am. Recording was stopped.

**LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT**


**SC194**

**119/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Heath and Curphey that Council authorise the making of an application to the 2024/25 Public Libraries Infrastructure Grant to incorporate libraries into the existing Coleambally and Darlington Point Offices. In parallel, community consultation on the library proposal be undertaken.

**CARRIED**

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 .....General Manager .....Mayor

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**120/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Saxvik and Curphey that Council authorise the General Manager to:

- a) Complete the purchase of lot 4, DP 718198, 31 Carrington Street Darlington Point from Waddi Housing and Advancement Corporation Ltd;
- b) Sell two lots within the Young Street subdivision, identified as no. 6 and no. 9 Edwards Street, Darlington Point to Waddi Housing and Advancement Corporation Ltd.
- c) The purchase be funded from Section 7.12 contributions.

**CARRIED**

**YOUNG STREET SUBDIVISION – ELECTRICAL RETICULATION SC610**


**121/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Chirgwin and Bryce that:

1. Council resolve, having regard to specialist advice received, to proceed with the procurement of electrical reticulation services to the Young Street subdivision without inviting tenders for the works for the following reasons:
  - (a) Council’s contract project managers and specialist electrical design consultants have made extensive enquiries of known qualified potential contractors and, being satisfied that further advertising would:
    - (i) be unlikely to elicit interest from additional potential suppliers; and
    - (ii) be likely to lead to currently interested suppliers declining to participate in a further round of procurement;
 have advised that the best value for money available to Council would be obtained by appointing a contractor from those currently identified; and
  - (b) Consequently Council is of the belief that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for the works.
  
2. Council award a contract for the installation of electrical reticulation services to the Young Street subdivision to Boschetti Industries Pty Ltd in the amount of \$389,793.59 excluding:
  - GST;
  - Essential Energy fees; and
  - Supply of bedding sand to Essential Energy specifications.

**CARRIED**

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 .....General Manager .....Mayor

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**122/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Curphey and Strachan that open Council resume.

**CARRIED**

At 12.00pm the meeting re-opened to the public. Recording resumed.

The Mayor informed the meeting of resolutions 119/10/24, 120/10/24 and 121/10/24 as adopted in the Confidential section of the meeting.

**ITEM WITHOUT NOTICE**

**DRAFT 2023/24 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**SC133**

**123/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Black and Strachan that this Item Without Notice be accepted and referred to the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 3 October 2024, as it requires resolution before the next scheduled meeting.

**CARRIED**

**DRAFT 2023/24 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**SC133**


**124/10/24 Resolved** on the motion of Councillors Curphey and Mauger that:

1. Following review, the going concern basis is appropriate for the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024, and the required disclosures within the statements with regards to going concern are fairly reflected within the applicable notes;
2. Council authorise the General Manager, in consultation with the Audit Risk & Improvement Committee, Council's Auditors and the Chief Financial Officer, to make any necessary adjustments to the financial statements that may arise as the result of the audit process, and to report back to Council on any such adjustments that are made, where significant;
3. Council authorises the signing of the Statement by Councillors and Management by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and endorse the signing by the General Manager and Chief Financial Officer (as Responsible Accounting Officer) in relation to the General Purpose Financial Statements;
4. The General Purpose Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 be formally referred to Council's Auditor for audit; and

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.....General Manager .....Mayor

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5. Council delegates to the General Manager authority, upon receipt of the Auditor's Reports to:
  - a. forward a copy of the financial statements and Auditor's Reports to the Office of Local Government;
  - b. arrange for public notice to be given, in the required format, on Council's website, of the Council meeting for presentation of the audited 2023/24 financial statements;
  - c. arrange for the Council's audited financial statements and Auditor's reports to be placed on public exhibition; and
  - d. list the audited financial statements and Auditor's reports on the agenda for the next available Council meeting for presentation to the public, which allows for the 7 days public notice requirement.

**CARRIED**

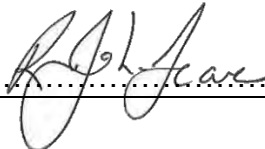
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.11pm

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**CR RUTH McRAE, OAM  
MAYOR**

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.....General Manager .....Mayor

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