



## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council**

**Wednesday 12 January 2022**

2.00pm

Council Chambers

209 Comur Street, Yass

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**Council Meeting - The General Manager declared the meeting open at 2.00pm**

**Present**

Councillors Allan McGrath, Mayor, in the chair, Jim Abbey, Cecil Burgess (via phone), Kristin Butler, Adrian Cameron, Jasmin Jones, Cayla Pothan, Mike Reid and Kim Turner.

Also present were the General Manager – Chris Berry, Director Planning & Environment – Julie Rogers, Director Infrastructure & Assets – James Dugdell, Director Corporate & Community – Lynette Safraneck and Corporate Planning & Executive Support Officer – Shirree Garland.

**Acknowledgement of Country**

The General Manager made an acknowledgement of Country

**1. Prayer**

The opening prayer was read by Cr Jasmin Jones.

**2. Apologies**

Nil

**3. Declaration of Interest/Disclosures**

Nil

**5. Mayoral Minute**

The General Manager reported that he made a decision, in accordance with the delegations provided by Council for the period 4 December 2021 until the Mayoral election, to permit Cr Burgess to participate in the meeting remotely as he was in isolation due to being a close contact with a person with COVID and attendance at the meeting may put the health and safety of Councillor and staff at risk.

**6. Reports to Council**

**6.1 OATH AND AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS**

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**SUMMARY**

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Councillors to take either an oath or an affirmation of office at or before the first meeting of the Council after the Councillor is elected.

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That all Councillors undertake an oath or affirmation individually and the details be recorded in the Council minutes.*

Councillors Turner, Abbey, Jones, and McGrath took the Oath of Office.

Councillors Butler, Reid, Pothan, Cameron undertook the Affirmation of Office.

Note: Prior to the meeting Cr Burgess undertook the Oath of Office before the General Manager as required under the *Local Government Act 1993*

#### **4. Confirmation of Minutes**

***RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 01 December 2021 covered by resolution numbers 256-281 inclusive, copies of which had been circulated to all Councillors, be taken as read and confirmed.***

***(Reid/Turner) 1***

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Nil

#### **6.2 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR**

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##### **SUMMARY**

To provide the framework for the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

***RESOLVED that :***

- 1. The method of electing the Mayor be by open vote with the returning officer declaring the number of votes for each candidate.***
- 2. A Deputy Mayor be elected for the same term as the Mayor and the system of election be the same as used for the election of the Mayor.***
- 3. The General Manager proceed with the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.***

***(Jones/McGrath) 2***

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, Butler, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Councillor A Cameron

##### **Election of Mayor**

In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (Schedule 7)* the General Manager as Returning Officer called for nominations for the position of Mayor. He advised that there were two nominations for the position of Mayor, being Councillors McGrath and Turner. The General Manager called for any further nominations. No further nominations were made.

Councillor Allan McGrath and Councillor Kim Turner addressed the Council.

An election was held under by open vote with the following result:

Councillor McGrath – 5  
Councillor Turner - 4

**The General Manager, as Returning Officer declared Councillor McGrath elected as Mayor for 12 January 2022 to September 2023.**

### Election of Deputy Mayor

In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (Schedule 7)* the General Manager as Returning Officer called for nominations for the position of Mayor. He advised that there were three nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor, being Councillors Pothan, Jones and Turner.

Councillor Cayla Pothan, Councillor Jasmin Jones and Councillor Kim Turner addressed the Council.

An election was held under by open vote with the following result:

Councillor Pothan – 3  
Councillor Jones - 5  
Councillor Turner - 1

**The General Manager, as Returning Officer, declared Councillor Jones, with an absolute majority of votes, elected as Deputy Mayor for 12 January 2022 to September 2023.**

### 6.3 CASUAL VACANCIES WITHIN 18 MONTHS OF LAST ORDINARY ELECTION

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#### SUMMARY

Should a casual vacancy occur during the term of Council a by-election is generally required to fill the casual vacancy. If a casual vacancy occurs within 18 months of the last Ordinary Election of Councillors, the vacancy the casual vacancy can be filled by a countback of votes cast in the last election.

***RESOLVED that pursuant to s291A(1)(b) Local Government Act 1993 Council declares that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a Councillor within 18 months after the last Ordinary Election of Councillors for the Council on 4 December 2021 are filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with s291A of the Act and directs the General Manager to notify the NSW Electoral Commissioner of the Council's decision within seven days of the decision.***

***(Turner/Cameron) 3***

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Nil

### 6.4 COUNCIL MEETING TIMES

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#### SUMMARY

To consider Council meeting times.

***RESOLVED that :***

- 1. Ordinary Meetings of Council be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month with the exception of December and January. The Ordinary meeting held in December will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.***
- 2. Open Forum to commence at 4.00pm prior to the commencement of a formal Council meeting.***

***(Jones/Reid) 4***

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Nil

## 6.5 AUDIT, RISK & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

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### SUMMARY

To appoint the Mayor and one Councillor to the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee.

**RESOLVED that Councillor Abbey be appointed to the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee until 4 June 2022.**

(Jones/Turner) 5

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Nil

## 6.6 DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR

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### SUMMARY

Delegations of Authority are made by Councils to ensure the effective day to day operations of Council and in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**RESOLVED that Delegations to the Mayor Policy (GM-CP-09) be adopted.**

(Turner/Reid) 6

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Nil

## 6.7 LGNSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE

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### SUMMARY

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) hold a Conference annually. Due to the postponement of the Local Government elections the annual event was split into two components. The LGNSW AGM was held in November 2021 and a Special Conference to debate motions is scheduled for 28 February-2 March 2022. Council need to elect two voting delegates for LGNSW Conferences.

**RESOLVED that the voting delegates for Local Government NSW Conferences be the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.**

(Turner/Reid) 7

FOR: Councillors J Abbey, C Burgess, K Butler, A Cameron, J Jones, A McGrath, C Pothan, M Reid and K Turner

AGAINST: Nil

## 7. Notice of Motion

Nil

**8. Questions with Notice**

Nil

**9. Minutes and Recommendations of Council Committees**

Nil

**10. Confidential Matters**

Nil

The meeting closed at 2.56 pm.