



## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held at 12 noon  
On 26 November 2012

Cr M Pearce (Mayor)  
Cr B Crouch (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr L Cooper  
Cr K Dusting  
Cr M Dusting  
Cr D Field  
Cr F Geldof  
Cr I Strutt  
Cr K Ward

### Attendees:

Mrs J Michie, Acting General Manager  
and, Director of Administrative Services  
Ms L Cumming, Manager of Planning  
Mrs C Cooper, Minute Clerk

MINUTES

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*The Meeting Commenced at: 12:00pm*

### **ATTENDANCE**

Present were the Chairperson Cr M Pearce (Mayor), Cr B Crouch (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors, L Cooper, K Dusting, M Dusting, D Field, F Geldof, I Strutt, K Ward, Director of Engineering Services (Mr R Bell), Acting General Manager and Director of Administrative Services (Mrs J Michie), Acting Minute Clerk (Mrs C Cooper).

### **PRAYER**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY**

### **APOLOGY**

*Apologies were tabled for General Manager (Mr T O'Connor) and Manager of Planning (Ms L Cumming).*

**457/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs M Dusting / Cr F Geldof)**

That the apologies for the General Manager (Mr T O'Connor) and Manager of Planning (Ms L Cumming), be accepted.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

#### **Ordinary Meeting of 22 October 2012**

*Cr Strutt requested amendments to the Minutes of the 22 October 2012 Ordinary Council Meeting:*

*Page 9, Item 1 of Environment, Health and Building Report, Resolution 419 /12, Second Dot Point:*

*- Replacement of the words "Cr Dusting" with the words "Cr M Dusting".*

*Page 19, Item 10 of Planning Report, Resolution 434/12, first paragraph, deletion of the word "known".*

*Councillors indicated their agreement to the suggested amendments.*

**458/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs I Strutt / M Dusting)**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 October 2012 (copies have been circulated to Members) be adopted, as amended, as a true and correct record of proceedings.

EA

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**The Minutes of the Uralla Shire Council at an Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 November 2012, consisting of Page 5 and the previous pages, were confirmed by Resolution No. [nnn/12] on [Day Month Year].**

.....Mayor

**RESPONSE:**

All Councils in New South Wales provide the Division of Local Government with information on Rating, Financial, Corporate, Environmental Management, Recreation, Leisure and Cultural Services, Community Services, Public Order and Safety, Health and Housing and Community Activities. Councils are divided into 11 groups dependant upon size, density and classification. The groups are therefore comparable.

The Division of Local Government publishes these comparisons annually in "Comparative Information on NSW Local Government Councils." The latest publication released on 8 November 2012 compares councils' performance for the 2010/2011 year. An analysis of the Uralla Shire Council's KPI's is included in the General Manager's Report to this meeting (Item 2 – Governance and Administration).

**Cr F Geldof**

**QUESTION:**

**Uralla Shopping Precinct**

- 1. What marketing support does Council provide to shops in the Uralla Shopping Precinct to assist in attracting local residents?*
- 2. Has Council investigated the provision of a service agency which would provide access to a range of state and federal government services and assist in preventing local residents from visiting other towns/cities for these services and consequentially shopping in other towns/cities?*

**GM**

**RESPONSE:**

1. Council has a Community Development Officer who assists organisations and individual businesses. The task of attracting local residents to local businesses is really for those businesses. Council can provide support, however over the years various attempts for the establishment of an organisation along the lines of a Chamber of Commerce or such have been moderate and short lived successes.
2. Council has not investigated the possibility of having service agencies, such as Centrelink, established in the business centre. There is a Rural Transaction Centre in Bundarra, however Uralla appears to be too large for a kiosk service and not large enough for a service centre.

The value of a service centre for Federal and State services is one which those agencies assess. The clients of many Federal and State Services seek an anonymity that larger centre provide. Council does however, through its auspicing of Tablelands Community Support Options and Tablelands Community Transport, provide a nucleus of Federal and State Services. Unfortunately in some cases this facilitates, for the transport disadvantaged, the ability to travel to the larger centres.

The genesis of these questions is the dispute between Mr Bracken commencing in 2005 when the Council sponsorship of the Wordsworth was suspended because the publication became spasmodic. This dispute culminated in Mr Bracken refusing an order for heavy duty card in early 2008. Sponsorship of the Wordsworth resumed in July 2010, however there is no sponsorship in the 2012/2013 year.

**Cr K Dusting**

**QUESTION:**

**Wombat Crossing in Queen Street**

Can staff provide a timeline for the removal of the wombat crossing in Queen Street now that the corner treatment has been finalised at the corner of Queen and Park Streets? This is a follow-up to the Question on Notice raised at the Ordinary Meeting of Monday, 22 August 2011.

**GM**

**RESPONSE:**

The work required at the intersection of Park and Queen Street has been completed. Council will program the removal of the Wombat when staff are available.

**QUESTION:**

**Street Sweeping**

1. Could the Uralla Shire Council hire or borrow a street sweeper from another town?
2. How much would it cost to street sweep the 'Main Street' at least once a month?

**GM**

**RESPONSE:**

Prior to Thunderbolts Festival, Council hired the street sweeper from Armidale Dumaresq Council. I will advise Council of the cost once we have been invoiced for the work ADC has been prepared to do occasionally for us. We have not approached them to do it on a regular basis.

Council would need to increase its service level and funding for street cleaning if it was to occur on a regular basis.

**Cr L Cooper**

**QUESTION:**

**Food and Wine Festival**

Could the Uralla Food and Wine Festival be managed by the Uralla Events Management Committee?

**GM**

**Item 2**

**Environmental Committee Meeting 6 November 2012**

File Ref U12/150

**463/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Ward / L Cooper )**

That Council note the minutes of the Environmental Committee held on 6 November 2012 and adopt the following recommendations:.

1. That Council visit the landfill facility at 10.30am on Monday, 17 December 2012.
2. That Council endorse the Statement of Management Intent for Racecourse Lagoon and proceed to lodging it with the National Parks and Wildlife Services.
3. That Mr Irving is invited to attend lunch with the Councillors on December 17 during which time Councillors view the art and thank Mr Irving for his work and contribution.
4. That Council write to U3CF and thank them for their contribution to the Joint Submission to the New South Wales Draft Renewable Energy Action Plan.

**GM**

**Item 3**

**Comparative Information on NSW Local Government Councils 2010/2011**

File Ref U07/104

**464/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs B Crouch / I Strutt )**

That Council note:

1. The publication of the Comparative Information on NSW Local Government Councils 2010/2011 by the Division of Local Government on Thursday, 8 November 2012.
2. The analysis of the comparison of the Uralla Shire Council and Group 10 Councils in the General Manager's Report.

**Item 4**

**Central Northern Regional Library**

File Ref U07/313

**465/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Dusting / L Cooper)**

That Council

1. Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and attach the Council Seal to the Variation to the Central Northern Regional Library Agreement from 1 July 2012 with the Tamworth Regional Council, and
2. Include an amount of \$74,517 in the Council's deliberations of its budget estimates for the year to 30 June 2014 for the contribution to Tamworth Regional Council for the provision of library services to the Uralla Shire Council through the Central Northern Regional Library.

**GM**

**469/12 MOVED/CARRIED (Crs I Strutt / M Dusting)**

That Council resume Standing Orders.

**470/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Ward / M Dusting)**

That that:

Cr M Dusting to attend Kingstown Public School on 5 December 2012 at 6:30pm

Cr B Crouch to attend Bundarra Central School on 6 December 2012 at 7:30pm

Cr M Pearce to attend Rocky River School on 12 December 2012 at 6:00pm

Cr F Geldof to attend Uralla Central School on 13 December 2012 at 7:00pm

Cr K Ward to attend St Joseph's School on 18 December 2012 at time TBA

Cr K Dusting to attend Kentucky Public School on 18 December 2012 at 7:30pm

to represent Council at the school presentation nights.

**GM**

**Item 8**

**Appointment of Councillor representative as Associate Member of the Board of Jobs Australia Enterprises Ltd**

File Ref U07/140

**471/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs M Dusting / D Field )**

That Council appoint Cr Leanne Cooper as an Associate Member of the Board of Jobs Australia Enterprises Ltd.

**EA**

**Planning**

**Item 1**

**Delegation to Council in regard to the making Local Environmental Plans**

File Ref U07/176

**472/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs I Strutt / L Cooper )**

That Council:

1. Note the two changes have been put in place to improve plan-making processes under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* in relation to Council delegations and independent reviews for Local Environmental Plan making decisions.

2. Advise the Department of Planning and Infrastructure that it is prepared to accept the Minister's delegation proposed for making Local Environmental Plan amendments, subject to the necessary 'gateway determinations' by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure in each individual case.

(Cont'd)

**GM**

## PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

### Have Your Say

Speakers from New England Weeds Authority (NEWA) included Mr Wayne Deer, General Manager NEWA; Mr James Browning, Senior Weeds Officer NEWA and Mr Russell Smith, Uralla NEWA Officer.

The Speakers delivered a presentation to Councillors about the role of the New England Weeds Authority and the work that the organisation undertakes for the Uralla Shire Council and surrounding Councils.

*Cr F Geldof thanked representatives from the New England Weeds Authority for their Presentation to Council.*

*Environmental Project Officer, Ms S. McCaffrey left the meeting.*

## STAFF REPORTS (continued)

### Planning ( continued)

#### Item 3

#### Development Determination Advisory Unit Minutes

File Ref U07/171

**475/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs D Field / M Dusting )**

That Council;

1. Note the minutes for the Development Determination Advisory Unit meeting held Thursday, 15 November 2012.
2. Authorise the release the bond of \$24,062.50 for Saumarez Estate Pty Ltd in relation to the future provision of a bus bay within the subdivision as per the conditions of DA 467/2007.

**GM**

#### Item 4

#### Planning Application Approvals and Refusals for the Month of October 2012

File Ref U07/168

**476/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs D Field / L Cooper)**

That Council note the information contained within the Planning Application Approvals and Refusals Report for the month of October 2012.



**Item 4**

**Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 – Annual Report**

File Ref U08/6464

**480/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Ward / F Geldof )**

That Council note the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 Annual Report for the period June 2011 to June 2012.

**GM**

**Community Services**

**Item 1**

**Visitor Information Centre Monthly Report**

File Ref U07/273

**481/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Dusting / L Cooper)**

That the Community Development Officer's report on activities at the Visitor Information Centre for October 2012 be noted.

*The Director of Engineering Services left the meeting room at 2:33pm to request the Environmental Project Officer join the meeting.*

*Cr D Field left the meeting room at 2:34pm.*

*The Director of Engineering Services, the Environmental Project Officer returned to the meeting room at 2:35pm.*

*Cr D Field returned to the meeting room at 2:36pm.*

**Item 2**

**McMaugh Gardens – Electricity Use and Solar Panels**

File Ref U12/7

**482/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Ward / L Cooper )**

That the report on Electricity Use in McMaugh Gardens be noted and that the following recommendations be adopted:

1. That Council work with Ausenergy to obtain the solar data for the period December 2011 – December 2012
2. That Council continue to monitor grid consumption and the costs associated with provision of electricity
3. That Council continue to monitor the output from the solar panels
4. That Council conduct an internal building audit or assessment of equipment / heating systems.

**GM**

**483/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs M Dusting / K Ward)**

That Council move to a Committee as a whole for discussion purposes on McMaugh Gardens – Electricity Use and Solar Panels.

**Item 3**

**Naming of Lane off Marble Hill Road, Invergowrie**

File Ref U07/766

**488/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs F Geldof / L Cooper )**

That Council write to the Geographical Names Board seeking support for:

Preference 1 - Marble Hill Lane and

Preference 2 - Daisy Lane, if Preference 1 is not accepted.

**DES**

**Item 4**

**Works Progress Advisory Committee**

File Ref U07/172

**489/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs F Geldof / B Crouch )**

That Council note the minutes of the Works Progress Advisory Unit meeting held on 15 November 2012 and adopt the following recommendations:

1. Plant
  - (i) Council offer the used chainsaws for sale
  - (ii) Council replace the minor plant items as per attached list.
2. Wollun Progress Association – Bergen Road  
That the Wollun Progress Association be advised of the progress on the Bergen Road upgrade.
3. New England Highway (south) – request to improve eastern side shoulder from Wool Store to 50km/hr sign  
That Council pipe the south eastern entrance to Uralla up to the 50km/hr sign.
4. Timber Bridge Assessment  
That Council make the replacement of Purlieu Bridge its Number 1 priority.

**DES**

*The Director of Engineering Services left the meeting room at 3:20pm.*

## **MAILOUTS TO COUNCILLORS**

### **Weekly Mailout Forwarded for the Information of Councillors**

#### **Item 1**

**Mailouts forwarded to Councillors for the Period Friday, 19 October 2012 to Friday, 16 November 2012**

U07/23

**491/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Ward / F Geldof )**

That the Mailouts forwarded to Councillors for the Period Friday, 19 October 2012 to Friday, 16 November 2012 which includes MANEX Meeting Minutes for Monday, 15 October 2012, and Monday, 29 October 2012 be noted.

## **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

### **Minutes of Meeting for Council and Community Committees**

#### **Item 1**

**Minutes of Council Committees**

Various

**492/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs M Dusting / B Crouch )**

That Council note the following Minutes of Meeting of Committees of Council:

- Consultative Committee held 7 August 2012
- Australia Day Committee held 6 September 2012
- McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre Advisory Committee held 8 November 2012.

#### **Item 2**

**Minutes of Community Committees**

Various

**493/12 MOVED/ CARRIED (Crs K Dusting / I Strutt )**

That Council note the following Minutes of Meeting of Community Committees:

- Uralla Food and Wine Festival Committee held 15 October 2012

**Cr K Dusting**

22 October	Ordinary Council Meeting
23 October	Hit The Ground Running Workshop, Armidale Bowling Club
26 October	Thunderbolt Festival
26 October	Uralla Creek Walk Opening – Tortoise Walk
5 November	Wine and Food Committee
7 November	Extraordinary Council Meeting
8 November	Australia Day Committee
12 November	Mayor and Councillor Briefing
12 November	Meeting with Darren Chester MP, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Roads and Regional Transport and the Hon Richard Torbay MP
14 November	Central Northern Regional Library AGM and Ordinary Meeting, Tamworth
26 November	Wine and Food meeting
26 November	Ordinary Council Meeting

**Cr L Cooper**

10 October	Thunderbolts Festival Meeting, Thunderbolt Inn
20 October	Thunderbolts Festival Meeting, Espresso Cafe
26 October	Thunderbolts Festival
27 October	Thunderbolts Festival
28 October	H4H Meeting
10 November	H4H Meeting
13 November	Thunderbolts Festival Meeting

**Cr K Ward**

5 November	Uralla Youth Council
6 November	Environmental Committee
7 November	Extraordinary Council Meeting
8 November	McMaugh Gardens Advisory Committee Meeting
9 November	Uralla Central School Sesquicentenary Assembly
10 November	Uralla Central School Sesquicentenary Dinner
26 November	Ordinary Council Meeting

**Cr I Strutt**

23 October	Hit The Ground Running Workshop, Armidale Bowling Club
24 October	Southern New England Landcare BRG-CMA Draft Catchment Action Plan Public Consultation
24 October	Uralla Youth Council
25 October	U3CF – Observer
26 October	Uralla Creek Walk Opening – Tortoise Walk
27 October	Thunderbolt Festival Street Parade and park activities
29 October	Mayor and Councillor Briefing
30 October	Meeting with Mayor, General Manager and Midpoint Owner
5 November	Uralla Youth Council
6 November	Environment Committee
7 November	Finance Committee
7 November	Extraordinary Council Meeting
9 November	Uralla Central School Sesquicentenary Assembly
10 November	Uralla Central School Sesquicentenary Dinner
12 November	Mayor and Councillor Briefing
12 November	Meeting with Darren Chester MP, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Roads and Regional Transport and the Hon Richard Torbay MP
	Ordinary Council Meeting

## QUESTIONS ON-NOTICE RAISED

### Questions On-Notice for Next Meeting of Council

Councillors lodged "Questions On-Notice" as detailed below:

#### Cr K Dusting

##### QUESTION:

##### Apprentices and Trainees

A typed Question on Notice was delivered to Council on 28 November 2012 (Trim Reference UI/12/5577).

*It States:*

*"The quotes below are from an article written by Vikki Campion (Urban Affairs Reporter) The Telegraph Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup> 2012.*

*Headed "Failing to fill in the youth gap Councils need apprentices"*

*"The United Services Union (USU) New Gen report calls on councils across NSW to double apprenticeship numbers with a target of 5% of their workforce."*

*"NSW Councils are failing to take on apprentices and trainees where they make up less than 2.5% of employees. Nearly half of all council workers are aged between 45-65 years with just 10% of the NSW local government workforce aged under 24 yrs."*

*"Local government has opportunities in plumbing, for electrician, in tourism, libraries, for mechanics and in horticulture."*

*What is Uralla Shire Council's comment on this report?*

*What number of apprentices and trainees does Uralla Shire Council have and in what trades?"*

GM

#### Cr B Crouch

##### QUESTION:

##### Renaming of Black Fellows Gully

*Why has the name been changed prior to the NSW Geographic Names Board gazettal expiry date of one month from 9 November 2012?*

GM

*Cr Crouch tabled an email from Mr Phil Irvine questioning the erected signage. (Trim Reference UI/12/5576)*

#### Cr L Cooper

##### QUESTION:

##### Chamber of Commerce

*What efforts have been made by the Community Development Officer to establish a Chamber of Commerce in Uralla and what is the current status?*