

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING`
OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
40 CHERRY STREET, BALLINA,
ON 17/04/23 AT 4.00PM**

Attendance

Crs Sharon Cadwallader (Mayor - in the chair), Kiri Dicker, Simon Chate, Eoin Johnston, Stephen McCarthy, Nigel Buchanan (via Zoom), Eva Ramsey and Rodney Bruem.

Paul Hickey (General Manager), John Truman (Director, Civil Services Director), Matthew Wood (Director, Planning and Environmental Health Division), Linda Coulter (Manager Financial Services), Craig Brown (Manager Facilities and Services), Tracy Lister (Acting Manager Communications and Customer Service) and Sandra Bailey (Secretary) were in attendance.

There was one person in the gallery at this time.

1. Acknowledgement of Country

In opening the meeting the Mayor provided an Acknowledgement of Country.

2. Apologies

An apology was received from Cr Phillip Meehan.

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Simon Chate/Cr Eva Ramsey)

That such apology be accepted and leave of absence granted.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

3. Declarations of Interest

Nil

4. Deputations

- **David Fuller** – spoke in relation to Item 5.6 – Community Infrastructure – Recurrent Capital Works and particularly in support of urgent maintenance to the Angels Beach Disabled Ramp.

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Extension of Time for Deputation

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Simon Chate/Cr Eva Ramsey)

That an extension of time be granted to Mr Fuller for his deputation.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

Change in Order of Business

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Eva Ramsey)

That Council change the order of business to deal with the item in which a Deputation was received.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5. Committee Reports

5.6 Community Infrastructure - Recurrent Capital Works

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Rodney Bruem)

1. That Council approves the inclusion of the recurrent capital expenditure priorities, as outlined in this report, in the draft 2023/24 to 2026/27 Delivery Program and Operational Plan, for public exhibition.
2. That Council include in the draft 2023/24 Operational Plan an action to undertake a holistic assessment of the remaining beach access points to allow Council to confirm a preferred priority listing of works and associated funding strategy.
3. That the Cemetery Road access to Rous School be supported by a reduction of \$12,000 allocated for Moylans Lane, Fernleigh Road, Beacon Road and River Drive (both segments)
4. That Council reduce the Meldrum Park Open Spaces Playground allocation to \$170,000 in 2023/24 and allocate \$20,000 to Council's trade staff for urgent maintenance on the Angels Beach access ramp and that Council staff coordinate with the local community group to come up with a cost effective resolution.

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FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.1 ARIC - Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charter

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Stephen McCarthy/Cr Simon Chate)

That Council adopts the attached Terms of Reference for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee and Internal Audit Charter as per Attachments 2 and 4 to this report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.2 Alstonville Cultural Centre - Redevelopment Update

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Simon Chate/Cr Eoin Johnston)

That Council notes the contents of this report regarding the update on the Alstonville Cultural Centre redevelopment.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.3 Fees and Charges - 2023/24

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Eva Ramsey)

1. That Council approves the exhibition of the draft schedule of fees and charges for 2023/24, as per Attachment 1 to this report.
2. That Council amend the 2023/24 fees and charges to remove the fees for bicycles on the Burns Point Ferry and revisit this matter in June 2024.
3. That Council receive a report on charges for lighting for sports fields.
4. That Council receive a report on hire fees for the use of sports fields.
5. That Council receive a report on options to improve the fee structure for taxis and hire cars at the airport.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

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5.4 Water Operations - Long Term Financial Plan - Update

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Stephen McCarthy)

That Council endorses the revised charges, as per the following table, as well as the long-term financial plan, as per the attachments to this report, for the Water Operations, for exhibition in the draft 2023/24 to 2026/27 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Charge Type	2022/23	2023/24	% Increase
Water Access Charge 20mm meter	224	236	5.5
Water Consumption under 350kl	2.52	2.66	5.5
Water Consumption over 350kl	3.78	3.99	5.5
Vacant Land Charge	224	236	5.5

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.5 Plant Replacement Program - Long Term Financial Plan

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Stephen McCarthy)

That Council approves the Plant Replacement Program, as per Attachment 1 and Tables Two, Three, Four and Five, of this report, for exhibition in the draft 2023/24 to 2026/27 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.7 Community Infrastructure - Non-recurrent Capital Projects

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Stephen McCarthy)

1. That Council notes the contents of this update on non-recurrent community infrastructure projects.
2. That Council receive a report on options to upgrade the Patches Beach car park.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

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5.8 Workforce Management Plan - 2023/24 to 2026/27

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Stephen McCarthy)

That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Workforce Management Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27, as per Attachment 1 to this report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.9 General Fund - Long Term Financial Plan

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Stephen McCarthy)

That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP), as per Attachments 1 and 2 to this report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.10 Delivery Program and Operational Plan - 2023/24 to 2026/27 - Exhibition

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Nigel Buchanan/Cr Eoin Johnston)

That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan, as per Attachment 1 to this report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

5.11 Debtor - Write Off

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Simon Chate)

That Council notes the contents of this report, relating to a sundry debtor write-off, which is the subject of a confidential report in this agenda, as it relates to the personal hardship of a resident.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

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6. Confidential Session

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eva Ramsey/Cr Simon Chate)

That Council moves into committee of the whole with the meeting closed to the public, to consider the following items in accordance with Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

6.1 Debtor - Write Off

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993. which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:-

- b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer

and in accordance with 10D(2)(c), on balance, the discussion of the matter in an open meeting is not considered to be in the public interest as the discussion on the report will be in relation to the personal and private circumstances of the resident.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

(The Council moved into Confidential Session at 6.02pm).

Open Council

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Simon Chate/Cr Eoin Johnston)

That Council move into Open Council and out of Committee of the Whole.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

(The Council moved into Open Council at 6:05pm).

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The Mayor reported to the Open Meeting the recommendations made while in Confidential Session:

6.1 Debtor - Write Off

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Simon Chate)

1. That Council approves the write off, of the debt detailed in this report, totalling \$3,162.44, due to the agistee's personal hardship and likelihood that any attempt to recover this amount would not be cost effective.
2. That the General Manager provide formal notification to the agistee of the need to vacate the property by 1 October 2023.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

Adoption of Recommendations from Confidential Session

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Rodney Bruem/Cr Eva Ramsey)

That the recommendations made whilst in Confidential Session, be adopted.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Phillip Meehan

MEETING CLOSURE

6:07pm