

WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

29 JUNE 2022

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:33pm

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Brian Beaumont

Councillor Steve Cooper Councillor Peter Crisp Councillor Tim Elstone Councillor Steve Heywood Councillor Daniel Linklater Councillor Susan Nichols Councillor Jo Rodda

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)

Matthew Carlin (Director Health and Planning) Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)

Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Geoff Gunn Director Roads & Engineering

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Rodda advised that she had a pecuniary interest in Item 12.3 as she has a working relationship with one of the tenderers.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 May 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 May 2022 be confirmed as amended.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 17 June 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 17 June 2022 be confirmed as

circulated.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr. Heywood

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 20 June 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 20 June 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of a public forum.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr Michael Hawtin addressed Council in relation to Item 9.12

Council Resolution

That Standing Orders be resumed.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr. Nichols

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/22/359

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

The Outstanding Matters report provides details of activities raised at previous Council meetings that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 21 June 2022.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 21 June 2022.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/360

In addition to the written report the Mayor acknowledged the resignation of Cr Greg Evans and thanked him for his time and efforts representing Council and its communities.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Rodda

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/350

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

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Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

The General Manager's report details information pertaining to meetings attended and general information which are of public interest, and which have not been reported elsewhere in this agenda. Items of note in this report are:

1. OLG Circulars

Circular 22-12 to 22-18

2. Meetings

As listed

3. Upcoming meetings or events

As listed

4. Other items of note

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained within the report from the General Manager.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the information contained within the report from the General Manager.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Linklater

9.2 POLICY REVIEW - OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

File Number: RPT/22/367

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 21 are the responsibility of the Office of the General Manager.

For this Council meeting the Office of the General Manager has reviewed two policies and are presenting two to Council for adoption.

Recommendation

That Council approve the following policies:

- a) WR006 Draft Volunteers Policy
- b) WR008 Automated External Defibrillators Policy

Council Resolution

That Council approve the following policies:

- a) WR006 Draft Volunteers Policy
- b) WR008 Automated External Defibrillators Policy

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper

9.3 RELEASING FRESHWATER CATFISH INTO THEGOA LAGOON

File Number: RPT/22/403

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and

protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.5 Recognise the importance of a healthy Murray-Darling River

system

Summary

Council has received correspondence from the Environment and Heritage Group, Department of Planning and Infrastructure seeking support for the release of Freshwater Catfish into Thegoa Lagoon.

Recommendation

That Council support the release of Freshwater Catfish into the Thegoa Lagoon and advise the Environment and Heritage Group.

Council Resolution

That Council support the release of Freshwater Catfish into the Thegoa Lagoon and advise the Environment and Heritage Group.

Moved Cr Beaumont, Seconded Cr. Heywood

9.4 DETERMINATION OF COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION FOR 2022/2023

File Number: RPT/22/351

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined a 2% increase to the Mayoral and Councillor fees for the 2022/23 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2022.

Sections 248 and 249 of the *Local Government Act 1993* require Councils to fix and pay an annual fee based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2022/23 financial year. If a Council does not fix a fee, the Council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

The Remuneration Tribunal classifies the Wentworth Shire Council as a Rural Council. As such, the minimum fee for a Councillor is \$9,560 and the maximum allowable is \$12,650. In addition to the fee paid as a Councillor, the minimum fee payable to the Mayor is \$10,180 and the maximum fee is \$27,600.

In May 2021, Council resolved to increase the fees for the 2021/22 to the maximum amount. The fees for 2021/22 are \$12,400 for Councillors plus an additional \$27,060 for the Mayor.

Recommendation

That Council sets the level of fees to be paid to the Councillors and Mayor in accordance with the schedule of fees determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Council Resolution

That Council approves \$12,650 for Councillors and \$27,600 for the Mayor in accordance with the schedule of fees determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Moved Cr. Heywood, Seconded Cr Crisp

9.5 ENDORSEMENT OF INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTATION

File Number: RPT/22/356

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Act (the Act) Council, following an ordinary election of Councillors, Council must review the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) before the 30 June following the election.

Additionally, Council must also review the Resource Strategy, and complete a four year Delivery Program and one year Operational Plan.

The suite of draft documents were presented to Council on 18 May 2022 and were subsequently placed on public exhibition, with submissions closing on 17 June 2022.

Council is now required to consider all submissions received prior to adopting the Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) suite of documents and to make and levy the following rates and charges for 2022-23 including:

- o 0.70% increase in the Ordinary rate for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Sewer Access Charges for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Water Access Charges for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Domestic Waste Charges for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Water Consumption Charges for 2022-23.
- Charge the maximum 6.00% interest on overdue rates and charges

At the time of writing this report there had been no submissions received from the public during the exhibition period. Any submissions received between the time of preparing this report and the conclusion of the public exhibition period will be the subject of a supplementary late report to be tabled at the Council meeting.

There have been minor administrative changes to all documents to reflect feedback received from Councillors and to reflect ongoing internal reviews and continuous improvement by Council officers.

The major change to the Community Strategic Plan was updating the vision from the previous vision of:

"A thriving region, supported by a robust economic base, distinctive open spaces, and strong local governance and leadership".

To reflect the following:

"Wentworth Shire will work together to create a thriving, attractive and welcoming community."

Amendments have been made to the 2022-2023 Budget to reflect updated information received during the consultation period. The overall impact of the changes are as follows:

- Capital Grants & Contributions increased by \$2,697,436
- Operational Grants & Contributions increased by \$301,708
- Fees and Charges increased by \$150,000
- Materials & Contracts increased by \$301,708
- Other Expenditure increased by \$242,518
- Capital expenditure increased by \$3,030,437
- Use of Restricted Reserves to fund capital expenditure increased by \$300,000
- Total Surplus from Operating Activities increased by \$2,604,917
- Total 2022-2023 Cash Surplus decreased by \$125,619

Recommendation

That Council endorses the revised Community Vision as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan:

That Council endorses the 2022-32 Community Strategic Plan – Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus;

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Workforce Management Plan
- Asset Management Strategy

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan;

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Delivery Program incorporating the 2022-2023 Operational Plan, Budget and Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to increase the General rate for the 2022-23 year by the maximum 0.70% rate pegged amount as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART);

That Council resolves to make and levy an ordinary rate to comprise of a base rate and an ad valorem rating structure for Residential, Business and Farmland categories of rates under Sections 534, 535 & 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) for the 2022-23 year including:

Farmland category

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Farmland except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as Farmland, Dry Land Grazing and Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

Farmland

 An ordinary rate of 0.00334672 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, in accordance with Section 515 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$510.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 31.05% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$1,161,220.89

Farmland - Dry Land Grazing

• An ordinary rate of 0.00269869 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, sub categorised Dry Land Grazing in accordance with Section 515 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$510.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 17.94% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$736,409

Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

• An ordinary rate of 0.04014391 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, sub categorised Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline, in accordance with Section 515 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$95.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 43.00% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$15,683

Residential Category

Wentworth

An ordinary rate of 0.00435451 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to base amount of (\$240.00) for each assessment. The amount accounts for 45.09% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$323,640

Buronga

• An ordinary rate of 0.00392586 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Buronga, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 29.71% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$426,142

Gol Gol

• An ordinary rate of 0.00418719 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Gol Gol, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 25.76% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$597,530

Gol Gol East

• An ordinary rate of 0.00470828 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Gol Gol East, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$360.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 22.68% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$357,091

Pooncarie

 An ordinary rate of 0.01407047 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 46.60% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$22,177

Dareton

• An ordinary rate of 0.01659654 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Dareton, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 48.22% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$76,832

Rural Residential

• An ordinary rate of 0.00382962 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Rural, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 26.15% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$475,701

Business Category

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Business except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as Business, Mourquong; Business, Trentham Cliffs; Business, Arumpo; Business, Wentworth; Business, Pooncarie (including all of the lands within the locality of Pooncarie sub categorised as Business Pooncarie except those lands within the township of Pooncarie).

Business

• An ordinary rate of 0.00716264 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 19.43% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$261,270

Business, Wentworth

• An ordinary rate of 0.00918108 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 37.89% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$39,192

Business, Mourquong

 An ordinary rate of 0.30967717 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Mourquong, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.12% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$245,545

Business, Trentham Cliffs

• An ordinary rate of 0.00869766 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Trentham Cliffs, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act 1993, be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$120.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 4.17% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$11,450

Business, Arumpo

• An ordinary rate of 0.06598092 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Arumpo, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$210.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 1.35% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$77,522

Business, Pooncarie

• An ordinary rate of 0.08716740 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.02% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$888,000

That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Sewer Services for 2022-23 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Water Services for 2002-23 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to make and levy a Domestic Waste Management charge for 2022-23 year under Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on each parcel of rateable land of which the service is available as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue:

That Council resolves to fix the fees and charges as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue; and

That Council resolves to charge the maximum 6.00% interest on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

That Council approves the proposed borrowings for 2022-2023 as outlined in the Annual Statement Revenue.

Council Resolution

Recommendation

That Council endorses the revised Community Vision as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan:

That Council endorses the 2022-32 Community Strategic Plan – Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus;

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
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That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan;

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Delivery Program incorporating the 2022-2023 Operational Plan, Budget and Annual Statement of Revenue;

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Gol Gol East

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Pooncarie

• An ordinary rate of 0.01407047 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 46.60% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$22,177

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 An ordinary rate of 0.01659654 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Dareton, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 48.22% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$76,832

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Business Category

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Business except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as Business, Mourquong; Business, Trentham Cliffs; Business, Arumpo; Business, Wentworth; Business, Pooncarie (including all of the lands within the locality of Pooncarie sub categorised as Business Pooncarie except those lands within the township of Pooncarie).

Business

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Business, Wentworth

• An ordinary rate of 0.00918108 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 37.89% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$39,192

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• An ordinary rate of 0.30967717 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Mourquong, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.12% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$245,545

Business, Trentham Cliffs

• An ordinary rate of 0.00869766 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Trentham Cliffs, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act 1993, be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$120.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 4.17% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$11,450

Business, Arumpo

An ordinary rate of 0.06598092 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable

lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Arumpo, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$210.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 1.35% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$77,522

Business, Pooncarie

• An ordinary rate of 0.08716740 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.02% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$888,000

That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Sewer Services for 2022-23 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Water Services for 2002-23 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to make and levy a Domestic Waste Management charge for 2022-23 year under Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on each parcel of rateable land of which the service is available as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to fix the fees and charges as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue; and

That Council resolves to charge the maximum 6.00% interest on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

That Council approves the proposed borrowings for 2022-2023 as outlined in the Annual Statement Revenue.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Crisp

9.6 POLICY REVIEW - FINANCE & POLICY DEPARTMENT

File Number: RPT/22/357

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 25 are the responsibility of the Finance & Policy Department.

For this Council meeting the department has reviewed seven policies and are presenting them to Council for adoption.

Recommendation

That Council adopted the following revised policies:

- a) AF012 Writing off Rates, Charges and Debts Policy
- b) AF015 Borrowing & Overdraft Policy
- c) GOV007 Privacy Policy
- d) GOV008 Public Access to Information Held by Council (GIPA) Policy
- e) GOV019 Statement of Business Ethics
- f) GOV022 Legislative Compliance Policy
- g) PR014 Cemetery and Memorial Management Policy

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no submissions, adopt the following draft policy:

GOV025 - Contract Management Policy

Council Resolution

That Council adopted the following revised policies:

- a) AF012 Writing off Rates, Charges and Debts Policy
- b) AF015 Borrowing & Overdraft Policy
- c) GOV007 Privacy Policy
- d) GOV008 Public Access to Information Held by Council (GIPA) Policy
- e) GOV019 Statement of Business Ethics
- f) GOV022 Legislative Compliance Policy
- g) PR014 Cemetery and Memorial Management Policy

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no

submissions, adopt the following draft policy:

GOV025 - Contract Management Policy

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Heywood

9.7 UPDATED DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS

File Number: RPT/22/358

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

The Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) (the Act) and Council's Code of Conduct Policy require Councillors to update their Disclosure of Interest Return whenever there has been a change to a Councillors individual circumstances that might potentially create a pecuniary interest in matters that come before Council.

Councillors Cooper, Elstone and Nichols have recently updated their returns and they are now being tabled before Council for noting.

Recommendation

That Council notes the updated Disclosure of Interest Returns.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the updated Disclosure of Interest Returns including a minor amendment to Cr Nichols' return.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda

9.8 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/352

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of May 2022 were \$1,255,800.11. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 88.96%. For comparison purposes 87.7% of the levy had been collected at the end of May 2021. Council currently has \$43,659,545.66 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Moved Cr. Heywood, Seconded Cr Beaumont

9.9 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/366

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

As at 31 May 2022 Council had \$37 million invested in term deposits and \$6,659,545.66 in other cash investments. Council received \$8,783.24 from its investments for the month of May 2022.

In May 2022 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 1.11% and it currently has \$8,407,239.79 of internal restrictions and \$27,136,721.15 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Cooper

9.10 WRITE OFF OF DOUBTFUL DEBTS

File Number: RPT/22/365

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Directorate: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Delivery Program Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Delivery Program Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

Council has been unable to recover the amount of \$ 10,499.50 being for waste charges from the Wentworth Caravan Park, Trade display fees for the Western Division conference. Council authorisation is required in order to write off these amounts.

Recommendation

That Council writes off as a bad debt the amount of \$10,499.50 pertaining to the Debtor accounts listed, all avenues of recovery have been exhausted and to continue pursuing the matter further would have no cost benefit for Council.

Council Resolution

That Council writes off as a bad debt the amount of \$10,499.50 pertaining to the Debtor accounts listed, all avenues of recovery have been exhausted and to continue pursuing the matter further would have no cost benefit for Council.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Crisp

9.11 DEPARTMENT HEALTH AND PLANNING POLICY REVIEW

File Number: RPT/22/363

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, *the Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 15 are the responsibility of the Health and Planning Department.

For this Council meeting Health and Planning has reviewed three (3) policies and one (1) document being the Community Participation Plan, which are now presented for consideration.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the following:

- a) Community Participation Plan
- b) PR003 Storm Water Drainage Policy

That Council approve PR008 – Compliance and Enforcement Policy and PR015 – Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties, to go out to public exhibition for 28 days per Council's Community Participation Plan.

Council Resolution

That Council adopt the following:

- a) Community Participation Plan
- b) PR003 Storm Water Drainage Policy

That Council approve PR008 – Compliance and Enforcement Policy and PR015 – Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties, to go out to public exhibition for 28 days per Council's Community Participation Plan.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Rodda

9.12 DA2022/002 8 LOT SUBDIVISION 92-94 WOOD STREET LOT 1 DP 1018940 GOL GOL

File Number: RPT/22/340

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Development Assessment Officer

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire Strategy: 1.2 Encourage and support population growth and resident

attraction

Summary

A development application (DA2022/002) was received by Council for an 8 Lot subdivision to be located at 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol.

Under clause 2.6 of the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011), subdivisions are permitted with consent.

The proposed subdivision proposes to create Lots with an area of 332sqm, significantly less than the surrounding area and not in line with the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020 (endorsed by DPE).

The application was publicly notified for 14 days as per the Council Community Participation Plan. Seven (7) submissions were received during the public notification period with a further six (6) submissions received outside the 14 days notification period. Of the thirteen (13) submissions, only eight (8) of them were unique submissions. This means five (5) of the submissions were a copy of each other.

Due to public interest identified by the number of submissions, the application must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council

- a) Give development consent subject to deferred commencement provisions for DA2021/002 being an 8 Lot subdivision to be located at 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol subject to conditions
- b) Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr Crisp

Amendment

- That Council give development consent subject to deferred commencement provisions for DA2021/002 being an 8 Lot subdivision to be located at 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol subject to conditions including a minimum 500sqm lot size
- 2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr. Heywood

<u>LOST</u>

Councillor Rodda withdrew her moving of the original recommendation

Council Resolution

That Council

- a) Give development consent subject to deferred commencement provisions for DA2021/002 being an 8 Lot subdivision to be located at 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol subject to conditions including a minimum 450sqm lot size
- b) Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED

In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.

For the Motion: Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Elstone (Mayor), Heywood,

Linklater and Nichols.

Against the Motion: Clr. Rodda.

9.13 DA2022/021 Dwelling with Garage 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth

File Number: RPT/22/316

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Development Assessment Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and

protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.5 Recognise the importance of a healthy Murray-Darling River

system

Summary

A development application (DA2022/021) was received by Council for a new dwelling with garage to be located at 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth in close proximity to the river.

The location of the proposed development is a linear distance of 7.87m from the high bank. Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011* (*WLEP 2011*), the required river setback is 30m from the high bank.

The applicant is seeking a variation of 73.77% to the 30m setback. As this variation is greater than 10%, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. That Council approve DA2022/021 being a dwelling with garage located at 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth.
- 2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. That Council approve DA2022/021 being a dwelling with garage located at 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth.
- Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr Cooper, Seconded Cr. Heywood

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.

For the Motion: Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Elstone (Mayor), Heywood,

Linklater, Nichols and Rodda.

Against the Motion: Nil.

9.14 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF MAY 2022

File Number: RPT/22/361

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Administration Officer

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire

Strategy: 1.1 Grow the potential for business and industry to develop and

expand

Summary

For the month of May 2022, a total of nine (9) Development Applications and four (4) S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$271,549.06. This brings the year to date total to forty-five (45) Development Applications and sixteen (16) S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$5,464,518.36

Recommendation

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of May 2022.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of May 2022.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.

For the Motion: Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Elstone (Mayor), Heywood,

Linklater, Nichols and Rodda.

Against the Motion: Nil.

9.15 POLICY REVIEW - DEPARTMENT ROADS & ENGINEERING

File Number: RPT/22/354

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Chanelle Pilling - Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and

protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 8 are the responsibility of the Roads & Engineering Department.

For this Council meeting the department has reviewed two policies and are presenting them to Council for adopting.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the following revised policies:

- a) AF016 Asset Management Policy
- b) PR012 Fencing and Grids Policy

Council Resolution

That Council adopt the following revised policies:

- a) AF016 Asset Management Policy
- b) PR012 Fencing and Grids Policy

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr. Nichols

9.16 PROJECT & WORKS REPORT UPDATE - JUNE 2022

File Number: RPT/22/355

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Chanelle Pilling - Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and

protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the month of May 2022 and the planned activities for June 2022.

Recommendation

That Council notes the major works undertaken in May and the scheduled works for the following months.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the major works undertaken in May and the scheduled works for the following month.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr. Heywood

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 UPGRADE OF ACCESS ROAD AND WALKING TRACK AT THE COOMEALLA GOLF CLUB WETLANDS

File Number: RPT/22/401

Motion

That Council makes provision in the 22/23 budget for the upgrade of the access road and walking track at the Coomealla Golf Club Wet Lands, and inform the Murray Darling Wet Lands Working Group of Councils commitment to the project.

Council Resolution

That Council makes provision in the 22/23 budget for the upgrade of the access road and walking track at the Coomealla Golf Club Wet Lands, and inform the Murray Darling Wet Lands Working Group of Councils commitment in principle to the project.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2 OLD WENTWORTH ROAD SIGNAGE

Cr Susan Nichols requested a review of the Road Closed signs on the Old Wentworth Road.

The General Manager advised that he will get the signage reviewed from a Work Health & Safety perspective to ensure compliance and he will get back to Cr Nichols via email regarding the works schedule for the road.

Councillor Crisp advised that a committee has been formed for the Centenary of Dareton for Councils information.

10.3 NEILPO STREET FLATS

Cr Peter Crisp requested that action be taken regarding the Neilpo Street flats. It is currently an unsafe area.

Director Health and Planning Matthew Carlin advised that action has commenced.

10.4 WATER POOLING 32-34-36 CADELL STREET

Cr Brian Beaumont sited a significant problem of water pooling in the kerb & guttering at 32-34-36 Cadell Street.

The General Manager advised that Council is currently investigating and thus far it has been ascertained that the water is coming from a storm water drain at 36 Cadell Street. The resident has plumbers investigating where the leak is on the property. The kerb and guttering in a section near these residences is being replaced.

11 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

Despite the right of members of the public to attend meetings of a council, the council may choose to close to the public, parts of the meeting that involve the discussion or receipt of certain matters as prescribed under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act.

With the exception of matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) (10A(2)(a)), matters involving the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer (10A(2)(b)) or matters that would disclose a trade secret (10A(2)(d)(iii)), council must be satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

The Act requires council to close the meeting for only so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security being protected. (section 10B(1)(a))

Section 10A(4) of the Act provides that a council may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

Section 10B(4) of the Act stipulates that for the purpose of determining whether the discussion of a matter in an open meeting would be contrary to the public interest, it is irrelevant that:-

- (a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or
- (b) the discussion of the matter may -
 - (i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or
 - (ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

Recommendation

That Council adjourns into Closed Session, the recording of the meeting be suspended, and members of the press and public be excluded from the Closed Session, and that access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution.

This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:-

12.1 Extension to Wentworth Rowing Club - PT2122/16. (RPT/22/373)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

12.2 Tronox Agreement. (RPT/22/381)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be

privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

12.3 PT2122/17 - Events Management Services Tender. (RPT/22/418)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

Council Resolution

That Council adjourns into Closed Session, the recording of the meeting be suspended, and members of the press and public be excluded from the Closed Session, and that access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Beaumont

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 EXTENSION TO WENTWORTH ROWING CLUB - PT2122/16

File Number: RPT/22/373

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Ivan McKenzie - Infrastructure Projects Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and

protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

The General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 178(1)(a) accepted the tender from LP & J Wilkie Pty Ltd to carry out the extension to the Wentworth Rowing Club for Contract PT2122/16, in the amount of \$308,330.00 including GST and authorised the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the council seal; and allocated an additional \$111,347.00 plus 10% contingency (inc GST) in support of the Stronger Country Communities Project to cover the budget shortfall.

12.2 TRONOX AGREEMENT

File Number: RPT/22/381

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community

that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,

planning, decision-making and service delivery

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

The General Manager advised that Council accepted the Deed of Settlement and Release and authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the agreement and affix the Council Seal.

12.3 PT2122/17 - EVENTS MANAGEMENT SERVICES TENDER

File Number: RPT/22/418

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Lexi Golding - Manager Tourism and Promotion

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire

Strategy: 1.1 Grow the potential for business and industry to develop and

expand

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

The General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 178(1) (a) accepted the tender from Humm Events, and subsequently authorised the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the seal for the recommended contractor to carry out all works specified for PT2122/17 for \$249,630 GST inclusive of GST.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 8:09pm.

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20 July 2022

CHAIR