



**ORDINARY MEETING
MINUTES**

17 SEPTEMBER 2025

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 5:01pm

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Daniel Linklater
Councillor Jon Armstrong
Councillor Brian Beaumont
Councillor Peter Crisp
Councillor Greg Evans
Councillor Susan Nichols
Councillor Jo Rodda
Councillor Jody Starick
Councillor Michael Weeding

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)
Ebony Carter (Business Support Officer)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Weeding advised that he had a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.10 as he is a member of the same club as the applicant.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 20 August 2025 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 20 August 2025 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That the Ordinary Council meeting be adjourned for the purpose of

- a) conducting a Public Forum. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm and that
- b) Council move late items 9.13 to 9.15 to the ordinary agenda and that
- c) Item 9.5 be moved into the confidential agenda due to commercial in confidence information

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

David Walker spoke in favour of item 10.1

Council Resolution

That Council reconvenes into open session. The meeting was reconvened at 5:20pm.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 STATUS REPORT ON PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

File Number: RPT/25/523

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

The Status Report on previous Council Resolutions provides details of actions that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 17 September 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 17 September 2025.

Moved Cr. Starick, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/492

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for September 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for September 2025.

Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 15 AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/504

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Responsible Division: Corporate Services

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

A meeting of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee was held on 15 August 2025 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

The Committee considered the following items of business:

- Audit Office of NSW Update
- Internal Audit Extreme & High Risk Recommendations Update
- Internal Audit Quarterly Update
- Review of Internal Audit Charter
- Review of Committee Terms of Reference
- Annual Report
- Proposed 2025-2026 Work Plan
- Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report
- Quarterly Budget Review – 4th Quarter 2024-2025
- Quarterly Risk Report
- Work Health & Safety Report
- Quarterly Fraud Report
- Child Safe Standards Implementation Update
- Quarterly report on Legislative Updates

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2025.

Moved Cr. Starick, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/493

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Ebony Carter - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

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

Circulars 25-18 to 25-21

2. Meetings

As listed.

3. Upcoming meetings or events

As listed.

4. Other items of note

- The General Manager is taking leave from 27 October 2025 to 24 November 2025. Under Council's Delegations Policy an Acting General Manager receives the General Managers Delegation by resolution of Council. As such the General Manager recommends to Council that Director Geoff Gunn be the Acting General Manager in his absence.
- Wentworth Shire Council has won the Statewide Mutual Award – 2025 Risk Management Excellence Awards – Regional, Rural & County Council for Technological Innovation for the Wentworth Visitor Centre

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the information contained within the September 2025 report from the General Manager
- b) Appoint Director Geoff Gunn as Acting General Manager from 27 October 2025 to 23 November 2025

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the information contained within the September 2025 report from

the General Manager

- b) Appoint Director Geoff Gunn as Acting General Manager from 27 October 2025 to 23 November 2025

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND TIMES

File Number: RPT/25/487

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

The purpose of this report is to set the date and time for the Ordinary Meetings of Council for the next twelve months.

Recommendation

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on a day to be determined in all months excluding June
2. The May & June 2025 meeting will be held on the selected day in each month
3. The January meeting will/will not be held
4. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at a time to be determined

Council Resolution

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on the third Wednesday in all months excluding May and June
2. The May meeting will be held 13 May 2026 & June meeting will be held on the 24 June 2026.
3. The January meeting will not be held
4. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at 5:00pm until the February 2026 meeting and all meetings after which will commence at 4pm.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 IN PRINCIPLE SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CARP CONTROL PLAN AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS

File Number: RPT/25/502

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.3 Minimise the impact on our natural environment

Summary

Council has received the following information from the Murray Darling Association. This Motion seeks Council's in principle support for the funding and implementation of the National Carp Control Plan (NCCP) and its recommendations by the Federal Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP.

The Australian Government began investigating the use of the *Cyprinid Herpesvirus 3* (the Carp Virus) in 2016, culminating after 6 years research by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) in the NCCP.

European Carp contribute to environmental degradation in the Basin and impact native fish species. Through their feeding habits, Carp impact aquatic plant, native fish eggs, small fish, and zooplankton populations in our waterways. The end result of one or a combination of these impacts is reduced water quality and/or reduced abundance and diversity of native plant and fish species.

In response to concerns raised by Councils and Local Government Areas (LGA's) across the Basin regarding European Carp and water quality, the Murray Darling Association Inc. (MDA) has prepared correspondence to the Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP.

The letter outlines the impact of the invasive European Carp in the Murray-Darling Basin's Waterways and advises of the in principle support for the funding and implementation of the National Carp Control Plan and all of its recommendations by the Councils and LGA's of the Basin.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Council supports, in principle, the Murray Darling Association's urgent call for the Federal Government to fund and implement the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.
- b) Council endorse the Letter to the Minister as attached to this report.
- c) The attached Letter to the Minister be signed by Council and sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP, with a copy to be sent to the MDA for their records.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Council supports, in principle, the Murray Darling Association's urgent call for

the Federal Government to fund and implement the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.

- b) Council endorse the Letter to the Minister as attached to this report.
- c) The attached Letter to the Minister be signed by Council and sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP, with a copy to be sent to the MDA for their records.

Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED

For the Motion : ***Clr.s Armstrong, Crisp, Evans, Linklater, Rodda, Starick and Weeding.***

Against the Motion: ***Clr.s Beaumont and Nichols.***

9.4 REQUEST FOR DONATION - RFDS ROWATHON

File Number: RPT/25/538

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

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region
Strategy: 1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination

Summary

Council is in receipt of a request for a donation for the RFDS Rowathon. Council has supported this event through Donations, Contributions and Grants previously.

Recommendation

That Council approve a donation of \$5,000 to the RFDS Rowathon.

Council Resolution

That Council approve a donation of \$5,000 to the RFDS Rowathon.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**9.5 BURONGA GOL GOL SPORTING MASTERPLAN LAND ACQUISITION
PROGRESS**

File Number: RPT/25/536

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

Item moved into Confidential agenda by resolution of Council on page 2 of these minutes

Council Resolution

That the Ordinary Council meeting be adjourned for the purpose of

- a) conducting a Public Forum. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm and that*
- b) Council move late items 9.13 to 9.15 to the ordinary agenda and that*
- c) Item 9.5 be moved into the confidential agenda due to commercial in confidence information*

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/497

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Responsible Division: Corporate Services

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.1 A well engaged and informed community

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of August 2025 were \$3,072,073.96. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 32.52%. For comparison purposes 32.91% of the levy had been collected at the end of August 2024. Council currently has \$44,143,240.58 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for August 2025.

Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr. Starick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/498

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Ned Lamond - Financial Services Coordinator

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibly and efficiently for the benefit of the community

Summary

As of 31 August 2025, Council had \$36 million invested in term deposits and \$8,143,240.58 in other cash investments. Council received \$232,467.41 from its investments for the month of August 2025.

In August 2025 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 3.93% and it currently has \$6,522,314.93 of internal restrictions and \$31,621,844.63 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for August 2025.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8 AUDIT, RISK & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/25/507

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Responsible Division: Corporate Services

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) is established under section 428A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and in accordance with the guidelines for *risk management and internal audit for local councils in NSW*.

The ARIC provides independent assurance and advice to Council on governance, risk management and internal control, financial reporting, service reviews, continuous improvement and compliance.

This Annual Report provides an overview of the Committee's activities during 2024-2025 and demonstrates compliance with the Guidelines.

Matters under consideration**Committee Membership**

- Independent Chair: Rosanne Kava
- Independent Member: Dianne Schmidt
- Independent Member: Caroline Smith
- Councillor Representative: Cr Brian Beaumont – until August 2024 and Cr Jody Starick from October 2024

The Committee met 5 times during the reporting year. All meetings were conducted in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference.

- 7 August 2024
- 4 October 2024 (standalone meeting to review the Annual Financial Statements)
- 7 November 2024
- 14 February 2025
- 9 May 2025

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Annual Report for the year end 30 June 2025

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Annual Report for the year end 30 June 2025

Moved Cr. Starick, Seconded Cr. Weeding

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATION REPORT - AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/528

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.1 An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place

Summary

For the month of August 2025, a total of seven (7) Development Applications and one (1) Modification Application were determined.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$1,779,643.00. This brings the year to date total to 19 Development Applications with an estimated development value of \$5,803,746.77 and 3 Modification Applications.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of August 2025.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 DA2025/084 DEFERRED COMMENCEMENT (DWELLING) 119B LAGOON ROAD LOT 119 DP 756994 WENTWORTH

File Number: RPT/25/522

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.1 An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place

Summary

A development application (DA2025/084) was received by Council on 08 May 2025 for deferred commencement of a dwelling at 119B Lagoon Road Lot 119 DP 756994 Wentworth, on a lot below the minimum lot size within the RU1 Primary Production zone.

Under the RU1 Primary Production zoning of the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, the proposed development (deferred commencement of a dwelling) is permitted with consent if requirements under relevant clauses of the WLEP2011 are met. This application has been assessed against relevant criteria and is non-compliant with the objectives of clause 4.2B.

The proposed development is to be located on a lot measuring 8.7ha, while the minimum lot size for a dwelling on land under the RU1 Primary Production zone is 10,000ha. The proposed deferred commencement of a dwelling on the site does not meet the standard under clause 4.2B of the WLEP 2011, as the lot is below the minimum lot size allowable for a dwelling house. As part of the application, a request for a variation to this standard (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation) has been supplied.

Due to the variation being greater than 10%, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority and must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approve subject to conditions DA2025/084 for deferred commencement of a dwelling 119B Lagoon Road Lot 119 DP 7569944, Wentworth.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Approve subject to conditions DA2025/084 for deferred commencement of a dwelling 119B Lagoon Road Lot 119 DP 7569944, Wentworth.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

For the Motion : *Clr.s Armstrong, Beaumont, Crisp, Evans, Linklater, Nichols, Rodda, Starick and Weeding.*

Against the Motion: *Nil.*

9.11 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT COMBINED ACTION STATUS REPORT

File Number: RPT/25/537

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

Summary

This report provides the final item of information as requested by Mayoral Minute at the May 2025 Council meeting regarding transport related matters to enable Council to review, plan, prioritise and advocate effectively for necessary infrastructure

Recommendation

That Council notes the contents of this report.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the contents of this report.

Moved Cr. Weeding, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.12 PROJECT & WORKS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/501

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Megan Jackson - Roads & Engineering Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

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 months of August 2025 and the planned activities for September 2025.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in August 2025 and the scheduled works for September 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in August 2025 and the scheduled works for September 2025.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.13 REVIEW OF INTERNAL COMMITTEES

File Number: RPT/25/544

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

The Statutory meeting of Council is an opportunity for Council to review the committee structure that it requires for the upcoming 12 month period. Council is able to determine the number and type of committees that it wishes to establish and the functions of each committee.

Recommendation

That Council considers the list of Internal Committees and determines appropriate representation.

Council Resolution

That Council approves the list of Internal Committees and representation as listed below.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Listing of Internal Committees and User Groups

| Advisory Committees | Meeting Frequency | Council Delegate(s) | Other Advisory Officers |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| Floodplain Risk Management Committee | When required | Mayor, Cr Weeding, Cr Nichols and Cr Evans | General Manager, Director Health and Planning, Robert Rigby, David Buck, SES |
| Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee | Min Quarterly | Cr Starick | General Manager, Director Corporate Services, Roseanne Kava (Chair) Diane Schmidt, Caroline Smith |

| Heritage and History Advisory Committee | Min Biannually | Cr Nichols, Cr Evans and Cr Weeding (Alternate) | Greg Harrison, Russell James, Robert Hannaford, Nikita Vanderbyl, Tony Bruce-Mullins & Staff |
|---|--------------------------|---|--|
| General Managers Performance Review Committee | When Required | Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Council Representative Cr Starick, General Manager Representative Cr Nichols | |
| User Groups | Meeting Frequency | Delegate(s) | Alternate Councillor(s) |
| Carramar Drive Sporting Complex User Group | When required | Mayor, Cr Armstrong, Cr Rodda | N/A |
| George Gordon Oval User Group | When required | Cr Crisp, Cr Beaumont and Cr Weeding | N/A |
| James King Park User Group | When required | Cr Rodda, Cr Starick | N/A |
| Wentworth Showgrounds User Group | When required | Cr Nichols and Cr Evans | N/A |
| Wentworth Sporting Precinct User Group | When required | Cr Weeding, Cr Evans and Cr Beaumont | N/A |
| Pooncarie Sporting Reserve User Group | When required | Cr Rodda, Cr Armstrong and Cr Beaumont | N/A |

9.14 REVIEW OF EXTERNAL COMMITTEES 2

File Number: RPT/25/549

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

In order to respond to the needs of its community, Council annually reviews the External Committees to which it has appointed representatives. Representation on these committees is important in our community engagement obligations.

Recommendation

That Council considers the list of External Committees and determines appropriate representation.

Council Resolution

That Council approves the list of External Committees and determines appropriate representation as listed below.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

| Committee | Meeting Frequency | Nominated Representative(s) |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Australian Inland Botanic Gardens | Monthly | Cr Starick, Cr Rodda |
| Barkandji Indigenous Land Use Agreement Working Group | As required | Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Nichols and General Manager |
| Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager (Minister appt ex officio) | Monthly | Cr Armstrong, Cr Beaumont (Alternate) |
| Bush Fire Management Committee | Twice per annum | Cr Armstrong, Cr Weeding (Alternate) |
| ClubGRANTS Category One (1) Funding Committee | Twice per annum | Mayor and the General Manager |
| Country Mayor's Association of NSW | As required | Mayor |
| Community Safety Precinct Meeting | As required | Mayor, Cr Evans (Alternate) |
| Far West Joint Organisation – Broken Hill, Wentworth, Balranald, Central Darling | As required | Mayor and Deputy Mayor |
| Joint Regional Planning Panel (3 year appt) | As required | Cr Crisp, Cr Nichols |

| | | |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Menindee Lakes SDLAM Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) | As required | Cr Nichols, Cr Weeding and Cr Armstrong |
| Murray Darling Association (Region 4) | Min. 4 times per annum | Mayor, Cr Nichols and Cr Evans |
| Public Libraries NSW | Twice per annum | Cr Starick |
| Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. | Monthly | Cr Rodda, Cr Weeding (Alternate) |
| Wentworth Shire Health Interagency Group (WSIG) | Monthly | Cr Rodda, Cr Beaumont |
| Wentworth Shire Liquor Accord Committee | As required | Cr Nichols, Cr Armstrong (Alternate) |
| Western Division Group of Councils | Min. 3 times per annum | Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Starick and Cr Evans |
| Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee | Min. 3 times per annum | TBC |

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**10.1 SECOND OVAL AT CARRAMAR DRIVE SPORTING COMPLEX**

File Number: RPT/25/486

Motion

That Council undertake an investigation on the potential for a second smaller oval at the Reserve as per the club's suggestion to determine if possible with installed infrastructure and provide a scope and costing of clearing and levelling the land, and establishment of an oval to the south west of the current oval as a short term option to meet immediate needs of the clubs.

Council Resolution

That Council undertake an investigation on the potential for a second smaller oval at the Reserve as per the club's suggestion to determine if possible with installed infrastructure and provide a scope and costing of clearing and levelling the land, and establishment of an oval to the south west of the current oval as a short term option to meet immediate needs of the clubs.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Armstrong**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10.2 ADVOCACY SECOND BRIDGE AT MONAK

File Number: RPT/25/548

Motion

That Council note the Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy document adopted by Mildura Rural City Council on 24 April 2025, and their advocacy priority titled Monak Bridge and commence advocacy in support of the Heavy Vehicle Bypass, including representation to State and Federal members, Transport ministers, and Transport for NSW.

Council Resolution

That Council note the Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy document adopted by Mildura Rural City Council on 24 April 2025, and their advocacy priority titled Monak Bridge and commence advocacy in support of the Heavy Vehicle Bypass, including representation to State and Federal members, Transport ministers, and Transport for NSW.

Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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 Legal Costs - Ms Vanessa Field. (RPT/25/488)

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.

12.2 Buronga Landfill - Cell Capping Planting & Maintenance - PT2526/01. (RPT/25/496)

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.

12.3 Buronga Landfill Expansion Project. (RPT/25/500)

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.

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12.2 Buronga Landfill - Cell Capping Planting & Maintenance - PT2526/01. (RPT/25/496)

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.

12.3 Buronga Landfill Expansion Project. (RPT/25/500)

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.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL**9.5 BURONGA GOL GOL SPORTING MASTERPLAN LAND ACQUISITION
PROGRESS**

File Number: RPT/25/536

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

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(d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. 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 authorised the General Manager to investigate alternate sites within the Buronga Gol Gol area that would satisfy the intent of the original resolution of Council at the May 2025 meeting, being that the land identified should be suitable to satisfy the intent and spirit of the masterplan, and further any alternate sites should exclude crown land and any land that impinges residential development.

12.1 LEGAL COSTS - MS VANESSA FIELD

File Number: RPT/25/488

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Allan Graham - Property Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibly and efficiently for the benefit of the community

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 approved the continuation of the engagement of Ms Vanessa Field to:

- (a) Review, advise and act for Council, as instructed by the General Manager, in relation to the disputed land acquisition matters, and
- (b) Authorise the General Manager to make payment for the services provided in “(a)”, should those costs exceed the General Manager’s delegated payment limit of \$250,000.00 up to an amount of \$500,000.00 and
- (c) That Ms Field’s engagement is exempt from the tendering requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* under s. 55(3)(i) due to the extenuating circumstances requiring the provision of specialised legal services and further due to Ms Fields specialist expertise in regards to property and native title law.

12.2 BURONGA LANDFILL - CELL CAPPING PLANTING & MAINTENANCE - PT2526/01

File Number: RPT/25/496

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.3 Minimise the impact on our natural environment

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 2021, Section 178(1) (a) accepted the tender from Oasis Unmatched P/L 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 as specified for PT2526/01 for \$734,184.00 GST Inclusive.

12.3 BURONGA LANDFILL EXPANSION PROJECT

File Number: RPT/25/500

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

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 approved an extension of \$668,845.93 inc GST to the contract for the Buronga Landfill Expansion Project Tender No. PT2324/14 with Waters Excavations Pty Ltd.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting concluded at 7:48pm

NEXT MEETING

15 October 2025

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CHAIR