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# ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE WITH AN OPTION OF ONLINE  
CONFERENCING PLATFORM ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS

ON 16 MARCH 2021

COMMENCING AT 7.01PM

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### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### ATTENDANCE

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Cr R Kidd (Mayor), Cr G Taylor (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr J Hamling, Cr J McRae, Cr T Mileto (Zoom), Cr S Munro, Cr S Nugent, Cr S Romano, Cr R Turner, Cr J Whitton

Chief Executive Officer, Acting Director Corporate and Commercial Services (Redmond), Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services, Director Technical Services, Acting Manager Corporate Governance (Constantine), Chief Financial Officer, Executive Support Officer

#### 1.1 APOLOGIES

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Nil

#### 1.2 LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING

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The Mayor advised that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

#### 1.3 OPENING PRAYER

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Khalid Tufail of the NSW Regional Islamic Centre led the Council in Prayer.

#### 1.4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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The Mayor conducted the Acknowledgement of Country.

#### 1.5 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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Cr McRae declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary interest during discussions on item 5.3 when Orange Harness Racing was raised as she has a family member who is the President of Orange Harness Racing.

The Mayor spoke about Channel Nine's affiliation ceasing with Southern Cross Austereo as of 30 June 2021 and its return to partnering with the Win Network. From 1 July 2021, Nine's programs will be shown on Win. Nine's local news bulletin will cease and the Nine Central West news room and other Regional news rooms across the country will close on June 30, 2021 and roles of staff will be made redundant.



**RESOLVED - 21/072****Cr J Hamling/Cr G Taylor**

That the Mayor approach the Local Member Andrew Gee to raise the issue of television stations being required to have local news rooms as part of their licencing requirements.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**RESOLVED - 21/073****Cr S Nugent/Cr S Munro**

That Council permit the addition of the Late Item 5.6 – National General Assembly – Orange City Council Motions 2021.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

## **2 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

Cr Duffy spoke regarding the recent NSW Tidy Towns Awards. Awards achieved were:

- FoodCare Orange – Category E Winner – Community Spirit Award
- Overall Sustainable Communities Award for being a Finalist in Category E.

Cr Duffy presented the Awards to Council and noted that Roger Smith, Council's Natural Resources Coordinator should be congratulated on his commitment to Tidy Towns.

**RESOLVED - 21/074****Cr R Kidd/Cr S Munro**

That a letter be written to the Tidy Towns Committee congratulating them on their efforts in achieving these awards.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Cr Hamling spoke to the recent Suncorp Super Netball Trial Game and presented a plaque to Council. He also spoke about staff member Ben Keegan's ongoing commitment and work for the city's sporting events.

**MATTER ARISING**

The Mayor requested that Ben Keegan be invited to an upcoming Council Meeting to be thanked by Council.

Cr Whitton spoke on the excellent tourism during September 2020 where \$100million was brought into the community income with Orange ranking as the highest tourism destination during the period.

Cr Kidd also raised the wonderful donation made to the new Orange Regional Gallery from John Olsen AO.

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING****RESOLVED - 21/075****Cr S Nugent/Cr S Romano**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 2 March 2021 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Council meeting held on 2 March 2021, with the deletion of the Chief Financial Officer from the Attendance as he was not at this meeting.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION**

Nil

## 5 GENERAL REPORTS

### 5.1 RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM POLICY COMMITTEES

TRIM REFERENCE: 2020/2572

**RESOLVED - 21/076****Cr J Hamling/Cr G Taylor**

- 1 That the resolutions made by the Planning and Development Committee at its meeting held on 2 March 2021 be noted.
- 2 That the resolutions made by the Infrastructure Policy Committee at its meeting held on 2 March 2021 be noted.
- 3 That the resolutions made by the Sport and Recreation Policy Committee at its meeting held on 2 March 2021 be noted.
- 4 That the resolutions made by the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee at its meeting held on 2 March 2021 be noted.
- 5 That the resolutions made by the Finance Policy Committee at its meeting held on 2 March 2021 be noted.
- 6 That the resolutions made by the Services Policy Committee at its meeting held on 2 March 2021 be noted.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

### 5.2 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - FEBRUARY 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: 2021/269

**RESOLVED - 21/077****Cr K Duffy/Cr J Whitton**

That Council resolves:

- 1 To note the Statement of Investments as at 28 February 2021.
- 2 To adopt the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**5.3 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL INCLUDING QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS.**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2021/242

*Cr McRae Declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary interest in this item when discussion turned to Orange Harness Racing as a family member is the President of Orange Harness Racing Club, left the chamber and did not participate in discussion on this part of the item or voting on the item as a whole.*

**RESOLVED - 21/078****Cr S Nugent/Cr K Duffy**

That the information provided in the report by the Acting Director Corporate and Commercial Services on Outstanding and Completed Notices of Motion, Questions of Notice and Matters arising be acknowledged.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr McRae

Cr Mileto asked about the status of additional bins in Elephant Park.

*The Director Community Recreation and Cultural Services stated that temporary bins had been placed in the park however there appears to be an issue of domestic waste dumping at the site. Increased collections have been organised in the interim while a permanent solution is put in place.*

Cr Mileto asked for an update on the Risk Audit Report on Sporting Amenities including Asbestos.

*The Director Technical Services stated that Council holds a full asbestos register of all buildings and a report will be prepared for Council.*

Cr Nugent raised the issue of fishing in the Ploughmans Wetlands where sides of the wetlands and barriers have been damaged.

*The Chief Executive Officer stated that the fishing platform is going in quite shortly which may resolve the issue however while there are two designated fishing areas, there is no signage, so an education program through guidance signage on where to fish will be installed.*

**MATTER ARISING**

That the Blackberries at Ploughmans Wetlands on the Southern End of the Wetlands towards Wentworth Drive be treated to prevent further growth.

Cr Duffy asked after the progress of a Civic Reception for Jack Wighton.

*The Acting Director Corporate and Commercial Services stated that staff had been in contact and are awaiting availability in order to proceed with the reception.*

Cr Duffy asked after the progress of an Asphalt plant in Orange.

*The Director Technical Services advised that there were two companies interested still and that Council will be briefed in a closed session.*

Cr Taylor raised concerns about seating having been removed from Summer Street.

*The Director Technical Services stated that not all seats have been removed; bus stops are still serviced by benches. The City Presentation staff do a wonderful job and noted some seats were not in good condition. No they haven't been replaced. Staff are currently consulting with business owners regarding placement of seating along Summer Street.*

**RESOLVED - 21/079****Cr R Kidd/Cr S Munro**

That Orange's Taronga Zoo Rhino Trail Rhino be relocated back to the Botanic Gardens from Lake Canobolas.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

*\*\*Cr McRae left the chamber with the time being 7.54pm\*\**

**RESOLVED - 21/080****Cr R Kidd/Cr R Turner**

That a report on funding to Orange Harness Racing be provided to Council including what took place in discussions with NSW Harness Racing.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

*\*\*Cr McRae returned to the chamber with the time being 8.03pm\*\**

**5.4 PROJECTS ACTIVITIES MARCH 2021**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2021/316

**RESOLVED - 21/081****Cr J Whitton/Cr K Duffy**

That the information in the report on Projects be acknowledged.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Cr Taylor asked about the time frames for the Southern Feeder Road (SFR) completion.

*The Director Technical Services stated that the SFR is progressing well and will see Asphalt this week on the Endsleigh Avenue to Lone Pine Avenue stretch then switch to the next section of Lone Pine Avenue to Bathurst Road due for completion by August.*

Cr Hamling asked about the status of the road on Coronation Drive and whether this has occurred due to the increase in logging trucks.

*The Director Technical Services stated that this is a Regional Road and Council does receive funding to assist in the upkeep of the road, and that while the logging companies do not contribute to this upkeep, staff will investigate the damage and the possibility that the trucks are overloaded.*

Cr Hamling asked after the status of repairing Clergate Road and requested Minister Toole be taken for a drive to see its poor condition.

*The Director Technical Services stated that Council was unsuccessful in the last round of fixing country roads funding which was being offset by a co-contribution from the successful Federal Government funding under the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program.*

Cr Hamling asked for information on the swim safety lessons for schools.

*The Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services stated that there were currently 1,300 children enrolled in Learn to Swim at the Orange Aquatic Centre per week. As the school swimming carnival period is nearing an end it is anticipated that the pilot will commence in term 2 for those schools who expressed an interest in the program.*

Cr Nugent asked if there was a Tender out for the removal of trees at the Orange Regional Sporting Precinct and asked if this was a public document.

*The Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services stated that there is currently a Request for Quotation (RFQ) in the market. No one has been engaged. That there is a process of Heritage Approvals before it can proceed but having the RFQ process completed will save 4-6 weeks, should approval be given to proceed, so it is essentially a timing issue. The RFQ is a public document and was advertised in both the local and Sydney newspapers.*

**\*\*Cr Romano left the chamber with the time being 815pm and returned with the time being 8.18pm.\*\***

## 5.5 WOOD BANK USAGE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2021/453

### RESOLVED - 21/082

Cr G Taylor/Cr J Whitton

That Council resolves to:

- 1 Consider funding for the current financial year of \$10,000.
- 2 Consider an annual allocation as part of the budget process.
- 3 That Council approach the State and Federal Government for additional funding sources to assist with providing the Wood Bank.

For: Cr Kidd, Cr Duffy, Cr Hamling, Cr McRae, Cr Mileto, Cr Munro, Cr Nugent, Cr Romano, Cr Taylor, Cr Turner, Cr Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Cr Nugent asked if there was support for other heating options as the original resolution stated a wood and heating bank.

*The Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services stated that there are both Federal and State Government assistance packages for Gas and Electricity as well as local charities providing vouchers to assist those in need in obtaining or maintaining their heating services.*



**5.6 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY - ORANGE CITY COUNCIL MOTIONS 2021**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2021/493

**RESOLVED - 21/083****Cr K Duffy/Cr J Whitton**

That Council agree that motions on the following subject be submitted to the National General Assembly 2021:

- Licence Agreements for television networks to provide Local News Outlets.
- Funding to mitigate and adapt to current and long term impacts of climate change.
- Take action to make local communities and workplaces safer and more inclusive for Women.

FOR: CR KIDD, CR HAMLING, CR MCRAE, CR MILETO, CR MUNRO, CR NUGENT, CR ROMANO, CR TAYLOR, CR TURNER, CR WHITTON

AGAINST: CR DUFFY

ABSENT: NIL

**6 CLOSED MEETING****6.1 ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION AND PROPOSED PURCHASE OF LAND - FOREST ROAD**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2021/321

**THIS ITEM WAS WITHDRAWN.****THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.53PM**

This is Page Number 9 and the Final Page of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 16 March 2021.