



## MINUTES OF THE FINANCE POLICY COMMITTEE

HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE

ON 3 FEBRUARY 2026

COMMENCING AT 7:26 PM

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### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### ATTENDANCE

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Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate & Commercial Services, Director Development Services, Acting Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services (Stanford), Acting Director Technical Services (Theakstone), Communications Lead, Governance Lead, Governance Officer (Barnes), Governance Officer (Allan)

#### 1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

**RESOLVED - 26/015****Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr S Peterson**

That the apologies be accepted from Cr J Whitton and that Council grant them a leave of absence from the Finance Policy Committee of Orange City Council on 3 February 2026.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

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

Cr Peterson declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in FPC Item 2.2 – 2(e) – Event Development Funding as he is a volunteer of Lonely Mountain Ultra.

**2 GENERAL REPORTS**
**2.1 SMALL DONATIONS - REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2670

**RESOLVED - 26/016** **Cr G Power/Cr D Mallard**

1 That this item be heard and voted on separately.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**RESOLVED - 26/017** **Cr M Ruddy/Cr D Mallard**

2(a) To donate \$676.00 to Mood Active Association Incorporated to contribute to the costs of running their wellbeing program in Orange to educate people with moderate mental health conditions about the benefits of using exercise to better manage their mental health challenges.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**MOTION** **Cr M Ruddy/Cr G Power**

2(b) To donate \$1,000 to Unapologetically Hers and instead offer advice and support regarding alternative funding options.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**AMENDMENT** **Cr M Ruddy/Cr M McDonell**

2(b) To REFUSE the request for \$1,000 to Unapologetically Hers and instead offer advice and support regarding alternative funding options.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**THE AMENDMENT ON BEING PUT WAS CARRIED AND BECAME THE MOTION**
**THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS CARRIED**

**RESOLVED - 26/018****Cr M Ruddy/Cr M McDonell**

2(b) To REFUSE the request for \$1,000 to Unapologetically Hers and instead offer advice and support regarding alternative funding options.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**MOTION****Cr M Ruddy/Cr T Greenhalgh**

2(c) Council determine the donation amount to Lions Club of Orange to contribute to purchasing specialised medical equipment.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Cr K Duffy

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**AMENDMENT****Cr M Ruddy/Cr S Peterson**

2(c) Council DEFER the donation amount to Lions Club of Orange until additional information is received.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Cr K Duffy

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**THE AMENDMENT ON BEING PUT WAS CARRIED AND BECAME THE MOTION****THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS CARRIED****RESOLVED - 26/019****Cr M Ruddy/Cr S Peterson**

2(c) Council DEFER the donation amount to Lions Club of Orange until more detailed information is received.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Cr K Duffy

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**2.2 EVENT DEVELOPMENT FUNDING**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/2768

**RESOLVED - 26/020**
**Cr M McDonell/Cr J Stedman**

1 That this item be heard and voted on separately.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Cr K Duffy

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**RESOLVED - 26/021**
**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr M McDonell**

2(a) To fund the Orange Bridge Club 9-12 April 2026 to the value of \$5,000.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**RESOLVED - 26/022**
**Cr T Mileto/Cr T Greenhalgh**

2(b) To fund the Duntryleague Family Day - 12 April 2026 to the value of \$5,000.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**RESOLVED - 26/023**
**Cr M McDonell/Cr T Greenhalgh**

2(c) To fund the ADA NSW Convention - August 2026 to the value of \$1,750.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

**RESOLVED - 26/024**
**Cr G Power/Cr M McDonell**

2(d) To fund the National Renewables in Agriculture Conference - August 2026 to the value of \$5,000.

For: Cr S Peterson (Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton

*Cr Peterson declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in this item as he is a volunteer of Lonely Mountain Ultra, left the room and did not participate in discussion or voting on this item.*

*\*In the absence of the Chair, Cr Mileto (Mayor) chaired the meeting for this item\**

**RESOLVED - 26/025**
**Cr G Power/Cr K Duffy**

2(e) To fund the Lonely Mountain Ultra – September 2026 to the value of \$10,000.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Whitton, Cr S Peterson

*\*Cr Peterson returned to the meeting with the time being 7.56pm. For efficiency, Cr Mileto (Mayor) retained the Chair until the conclusion of the meeting\**

Cr Mallard asked how Council is progressing in completing the current outstanding audit for the Auditor General's Office.

*The Chief Executive Officer confirmed Council is working towards an approved extended deadline of 28 February 2026.*

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE****Cr M Ruddy**

Cr Ruddy requested a report at the next Finance Policy Committee Meeting on the last 2 years of donations that have been given community fundraising groups .

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.59PM**