



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on

Wednesday, 24 August 2022 4pm

at

Armidale Council Chambers Zoom

PRESENT: Councillor Sam Coupland (Mayor), Councillor Todd Redwood (Deputy Mayor - via Zoom), Councillor Paul Gaddes, Councillor Jon Galletly, Councillor Susan McMichael, Councillor Steven Mepham (via Zoom), Councillor Debra O'Brien, Councillor Margaret O'Connor, Councillor Paul Packham, Councillor Dorothy Robinson and Councillor Bradley Widders.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr James Roncon (General Manager), Mr Darren Schaefer (Chief Officer Corporate and Community), Mr Daniel Boyce (Chief Officer Sustainable Development), Mr Alex Manners (Chief Officer Assets and Services), Mr Simon Paul (Acting Chief Financial Officer), Ms Jessica Bower (Executive Officer) and Ms Melissa Hoult (Executive Officer).

14.

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1. CIVIC AFFIRMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr McMichael delivered the Civic Affirmation and Cr O'Brien delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

2. STATEMENT IN RELATION TO LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The General Manager delivered the statement.

3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Nil

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Name	Item	Nature of Interest	Reason/Intended Action
Clr Gaddes	15.3	☐ Pecuniary	Reason: Board member of NERAM.
		■ Non Pecuniary – Significant Conflict	
		☐ Non Pecuniary — Non Significant Conflict	Intended action: Leave
			Chamber

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting held **27** July **2022** *Ref:* AINT/2022/31712 (ARC16/0001-7)

157/22 **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 27 July 2022 be taken as read and accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Moved Cr McMichael Seconded Cr Gaddes

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

6. MAYORAL MINUTE

NIL

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 RRMS proposal for the West Armidale Medical Centre and access to GP services in New England rural communities Ref: AINT/2022/33445 (ARC16/0025-6)

158/22 RESOLVED

- That council notes the announcement by the Rural and Remote Medical Services (RRMS)
 to depart from five GP clinics in New England rural communities at the end of
 September, and RRMS' proposal to convert the West Armidale Medical Centre to a
 training centre for overseas doctors.
- 2. That, consistent with our Delivery Program Goal to "Ensure health and community service provision meets the needs of our growing and ageing population" council write to the Federal Minister for Health, the Assistant Minister for Health, the Assistant Minister for Regional Health and to the Hon Barnaby Joyce, as well as the NSW Ministers for Health and Regional Health and to the Hon Adam Marshall, asking them to support the proposal by RRMS and also do what they can to address the funding crisis in GP services, especially to rural and regional health, and also ensure that appropriate funding is available for telehealth services.
- 3. That council also brings the matter to the attention of the New England Joint Organisation of councils.

Cr Dorothy Robinson

12 August 2022

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr McMichael

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

8. LEADERSHIP FOR THE REGION

8.1 LGNSW Annual Conference 2022

Ref: AINT/2022/31710 (ARC16/0144)

159/22 **RECOMMENDATION**:

- a. That in addition to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager, Councillor Margaret O'Connor be registered as Councils delegates to the LGNSW Annual Conference 2022.
- b. That the process for appointment be by show of hands.
- c. That council votes, in seriatim, on the following LGNSW Motions that have been received from Councillors;

i. Motion

Motion submitted by Councillor Robinson:

"That LGNSW supports and works towards the introduction of a standard for new wood heaters that will protect public health."

Background

An expert **position paper on wood heater pollution**, written by 11 health professionals from the Centre for Air pollution, energy and health Research (CAR, an NHMRC Centre

of Research Excellence) notes that "Current Australian wood heater standards are insufficient to protect health".

The paper recommends rigorous emissions standards for "real world" heater operation. Prof Fay Johnston's **Letter of Support** for a health-based standard explains:

"Unbeknown to most, air pollution from wood heaters is a significant issue in Australia. It is the number one source of fine particulate air pollution (PM2.5) in both Sydney and Melbourne..... Researchers affiliated with CAR have estimated that in the Greater Metropolitan Region of NSW, long-term exposure to PM2.5 from wood heaters causes 100 deaths per year. This is more than deaths from PM2.5 exposure coming from power stations (45 deaths) and traffic pollution (72 deaths)

...While the current standards may appear to be adequate, they do not reflect 'real world' wood heater operation."

There was also general agreement at the Healthy Environments and Lives Conference, 18 November 2021, that the current AS/NZS 4013 is grossly inadequate (https://heal2021.com.au/recordings/). The presentation by Dr John Todd (who resigned in 2019 as Chair of the Standards Australia Committee on Solid Fuel Heating) "stated: our Standards are out of date".

The NSW Government's Clean Air Strategy states that "day-to-day management of wood heater emissions is at the local government level". A nationally-representative survey conducted by Asthma Australia in November 2021 found that "People who are exposed to woodfire heaters said they are largely unable to protect themselves from the smoke"

The lack of a health-based standard for wood heaters not only contributes to substantial ill-health, but also adds to the workload of local councils. A new health-based standard for wood heaters would not only help protect public health, it would also reduce the time and effort needed to deal with complaints by people whose health is compromised by other people's wood smoke that, as revealed by Asthma Australia's study, are very difficult to resolve.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr Widders

DIVISION The result being:-

FOR: Crs S Coupland, P Gaddes, S McMichael, S Mepham, D O'Brien, M O'Connor, T

Redwood, D Robinson and B Widders

AGAINST: Crs J Galletly and P Packham

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED.

Cr Susan McMichael left the meeting, the time being 04:15 PM

Cr Susan McMichael returned to the meeting, the time being 04:16 PM

ii. Motion

Motion submitted by Mayor Coupland:

"That Local Government NSW;

- 1. Requests the NSW Government assist Regional Councils to make more simple adjustments to their planning documents in order to bring forward suitable "Logical Inclusion Housing areas" especially adjacent to the existing urban fabric of their towns and centres.
- 2. Requests technical support be provided by Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to assist Regional Councils to find and deliver suitable housing areas without the necessity to undertake major review and structural changes to their planning documents.
- Requests the NSW Government direct DPE not to exclude "Logical Inclusion
 Housing areas" for consideration because they have not already been identified in
 high level planning Council planning documents. It is acknowledged that processes
 would be conducted in accordance with accepted site planning assessment criteria
 and principles."

Background

Council understands that the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) is looking at means and pathways for accelerating housing delivery as part of a deliberate program. Armidale Regional Council supports the logic behind this move by the State but would like to have available to it more simple pathways to enable early activation where it can be demonstrated areas are logical inclusion for housing without the necessity of needing to go back to the first principles and complete major reviews of high-level planning documents.

Certain areas in regional councils could be "Logical Inclusion Housing Areas" and supported for rezoning without requiring detailed planning studies. A process can be created where logical extensions to the city boundary can occur without the need to do a Housing Strategy which would provide land supply to meet the needs for the next 2-3 whilst work continues on the 20 year housing strategy

Moved Cr Coupland Seconded Cr Gaddes

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

iii. Motion

Motion submitted by Mayor Coupland:

"That Local Government NSW;

- 1. Requests the NSW Government assist Regional Councils to identify and utilise council-owned land for housing.
- 2. Requests technical support be provided by Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to assist Regional Councils to reclassify appropriate community land to operational land to support use for housing purposes.
- 3. Requests the NSW Government provide funding for infrastructure to activate suitable council-owned land for housing."

Background

The Regional Housing Taskforce Findings Report (page 30) noted that a number of regional councils indicated their willingness and intention to utilise council-owned land for social and affordable housing. Limited supply of suitable council-owned lands without reservations and restrictions was raised as a barrier with some councils suggesting that excess community land (which is subject to restrictions in use and cannot be sold or leased on a long term basis) could be reclassified to operational land to support use for housing purposes.

A number of council blocks that are pocket parks or other under-utilised parcels and could be used for housing. The process for reclassifying this land from community to operational (to allow sale or development) requires amendment to the LEP one parcel at a time. If all land were done as one package councils could bring blocks to the market quickly within the existing footprint of the towns.

Moved Cr Coupland

Seconded Cr Robinson

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

iv. Motion

Motion submitted by Mayor Coupland:

"That Local Government NSW;

- Requests the NSW Government commit to ensuring that Regional Housing initiatives that bring forward new housing opportunities be prioritised for Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) and Special Activation Precinct areas.
- 2. Requests the NSW Government direct Department of Planning and Environment to require all State Significant Development proposals within the Renewable Energy Zones to supply temporary housing for construction workers unless they have demonstrated adequately that there is sufficient housing supply in the local area and that such assessment be required to consider the cumulative on housing demand of concurrent projects."

Background

The Councils within the New England Renewable Energy Zone are already experiencing considerable housing pressure with vacancy rates below 1%. There is a need to ensure effective Government and Developer led responses to current housing pressures that will be exacerbated by the unprecedented level of government and private investment in the REZ and SAP areas.

Renewable energy projects with the sort of construction jobs being espoused by EnergyCo need to mitigate their impact on local housing and tourist accommodation markets in the host communities and be cognisant of the cumulative impact of multiple construction projects overlapping in the REZs.

Proponents should be required to provide accommodation for construction workers in the same way that major infrastructure projects (like Inland Rail) and major mining projects do. This should be required as part of the DA for REZ projects and should consider the cumulative construction worker housing task across multiple projects.

Moved Cr Coupland

Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

v. Motion

Motion submitted by Mayor Coupland:

"That Local Government NSW;

- Requests the NSW Government direct Department of Planning and Environment to
 prepare a cumulative social, environmental and economic impact assessment for
 the full development scenario of each Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), both during
 construction and operation, which includes (but is not limited to) impact on
 agricultural land and employment and our way of life
- 2. Requests the NSW direct DPE to consult with individual councils as to the most appropriate zones within each LGA to host renewable developments and give preference to those developments that fall within an 'approved' zone."

Background

In the REZ statement, the NSW Government claims it will "support around 830 operational jobs and 1,250 construction jobs." The source and definition of these jobs number estimates is not clear.

A number of the New England solar farm operators' proposals have given an indication of their expected number of operational jobs which equates to around 22 jobs for each one gigawatt of solar farm capacity. This translates to 170 operations and maintenance jobs for 8 gigawatts. Including indirect jobs (about 130), it is consistent with a total of about 300 jobs arising from the REZ. Significantly these estimates, even including indirect jobs, are well below the claimed 830 operational jobs.

The estimated amount of prime agricultural land required to host the renewable energy projects within the NE REZ is 32,000ha. Depending on the type of project and its location there will be significant social impact on members of the community including, but not limited to, devaluation of neighbouring properties, environmental concerns, health concerns and visual pollution.

The individual State Significant Developments (SSD) within the NE REZ are required during the SSD process to assess the social impact and give consideration to the cumulative impacts of multiple projects. This is not sufficiently independent or robust to satisfy host communities.

Moved Cr Coupland

Seconded Cr McMichael

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

vi. Motion

Motion submitted by Cr Robinson:

"That LGNSW formally supports ALGA's call for a Local Government Climate Response Partnership Fund of \$200 million' be endorsed for submission to LGNSW."

Background

LGNSW's policy platform on Climate Change includes many useful initiatives. Support for ALGA's call for a Local Government Climate Response Partnership Fund of \$200 million would be a useful addition.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr O'Brien

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

vii. Motion

Motion submitted by Cr Robinson:

"That LGNSW formally supports the introduction in NSW of subsidies such as those available in Victoria and the ACT for residents to improve energy efficiency and replace gas and wood heating."

Background

According to the government of Victoria: "A reverse-cycle air conditioner is one of the most cost-effective and energy-efficient ways to provide heating and cooling for your home in one system, for year-round comfort" - see

https://www.heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au/

Modern, energy reverse cycle systems can deliver 4 or 5 times as much heat to the home as they use in electric power and will be increasingly powered by renewable electricity.

Victoria offers subsidies of \$1000 to install energy-efficient reverse cycle systems, plus an additional \$500 if the switchboard needs to be upgraded. Households with annual incomes below \$90,000 are eligible, as are owners of properties rented for less than \$500 a week. THE ACT Government offers subsidies of up to \$1250 under its 'Climate Choices' program to replace wood heaters with efficient reverse cycle systems and also offers subsidies to replace gas heaters - https://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au/policy-programs/wood-heater-replacement-program.

The schemes in Victoria and the ACT represent an extremely cost-effective way to improve the thermal comfort of homes, reduce energy poverty and reduce global warming, and would be consistent with the NSW Government's commitment to a 50% reduction in NSW's contribution to global warming by 2030.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

viii. Motion

Motion submitted by Cr Robinson:

"That LGNSW acknowledges finding one of the NSW parliamentary inquiry into rural health that people living outside of the city have "significantly poorer health outcomes, greater incidence of chronic disease, and greater premature deaths" and advocates for rapid implementation of all 44 recommendations in the final report' be endorsed for submission to LGNSW."

Background

- 1. Final report of the parliamentary inquiry: Report no 57 Portfolio Committee No. 2 Health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales (see finding 1, page 14).
- 2. ABC report on the NSW Rural Health Inquiry Findings: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-05-05/regional-health-inquiry-findings-handed-to-nsw-government/101031564.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Mayor declared the vote CARRIED unanimously.

8.2 Council Actions Report January - July 2022

Ref: AINT/2022/32059 (ARC16/0001-7)

160/22 **RESOLVED**

That Council notes the report summarising the actions taken on the resolutions of Council.

Moved Cr Widders Seconded Cr McMichael

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

8.3 Council input into development of Lobbying Guidelines by the Office of Local

Government Ref: AINT/2022/32773 (ARC22/5047)

161/22 **RESOLVED**

That Council note the ICAC recommendations and provide collective feedback via the General Manager by Wednesday 31 August 2022 to inform a formal submission by Council to the OLG by 5 September 2022 on the collective view of Council as to whether:

- the LOGO Act should apply to NSW local governments; and
- what should be included in the proposed Lobbying Guidelines and model policy to be drafted by the OLG.

Moved Cr O'Brien Seconded Cr O'Connor

8.4 Tabling of Updated Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest - Councillor Packham

Ref: AINT/2022/33010 (ARC19/3543)

162/22 RESOLVED

That Council note the tabling of updated Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and Other Matters provided by Councillor Packham as required by the *Model Code of Conduct*.

Moved Cr O'Connor Seconded Cr McMichael

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

9. GROWTH, PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9.1 Planning Agreement with Oxley Solar Farm

163/22 RESOLVED

That Council:

- a. Accept the following general terms of the Planning Agreement proposed by the proponent in relation to the Oxley Solar Farm:
 - i. Lump sum of \$2,790,000 (adjusted annually for CPI) on commencement of construction.
 - ii. Annual payment of \$139,500 (adjusted annually for CPI) for 20 years from commencement of construction.
 - iii. An agreement to provide assistance with purchasing solar panels and steel components on behalf of Council at Oxley Solar Farm corporate rates.
 - iv. Annual sponsorship of Project Zero30 of \$20,000 (adjusted annually for CPI) for 10 years from commencement of construction.
 - v. Provision of four electric vehicle charging stations at agreed locations no later than commencement of operation.
- b. Advise the proponent of Oxley Solar Farm and the NSW Government of its decision.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr Galletly

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

9.2 YMCA Partnership - Update on Pilot Project for the operation of Council's Armidale and Guyra Pools Ref: AINT/2022/32199 (ARC21/4976)

164/22 RESOLVED

That Council:

a) Endorse an extension the MOU for a further three months to appropriately review options, continue community consultation on the Y NSW report and enter into negotiations with the Y NSW for the ongoing management of the two Aquatic Centres.

- b) Note the Report from the Y NSW and endorse the findings of the Armidale Regional Council's Swimming Pools and the recommendation to engage external consultants to assist in the creation of a business case; and
- c) Delegate authority to the General Manager to commence negotiations into the ongoing management of the two Aquatic Centres for an initial two-year interim management model incorporating the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 pool seasons at the conclusion of the MOU.

Moved Cr O'Connor

Seconded Cr Widders

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

9.3 2021-22 Draft Financial Statements - Refer to Audit

Ref: AINT/2022/32476 (ARC16/0001-7)

165/22 RESOLVED

- A. Council endorse the 2021-22 draft financial statements as:
 - 1. being prepared in accordance with:
 - the *Local Government Act 1993* (as amended) and the Regulations made there under;
 - the Australian Accounting Standards; and
 - the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
 - 2. presenting fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year; and
 - 3. being in accord with Council's accounting and other records.
- B. Council confirm it is not aware of any matter that would render the draft financial statements being prepared as being false or misleading in any way;
- Council endorse the Draft Financial Statements be referred to audit following completion of quality review by Council's Executive Leadership Team and Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee;
- D. Council delegate authority to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer to sign the 'Statement by Council and Management' for inclusion within the draft financial report;
- E. Council delegate authority to the General Manager to finalise the date at which the auditor's report and financial statements are to be presented to the public;
- F. Council delegate authority to the General Manager to set the 'authorised for issue' date upon receipt of the auditor's report; and
- G. The Audited Financial Statements be presented to the October 2022 Ordinary Council meeting.

Moved Cr Widders

Seconded Cr O'Connor

9.4 Cash and Investment Report 31 July 2022

Ref: AINT/2022/32504 (ARC20/4311)

166/22 RESOLVED

That Council note the Cash and Investment Report for July 2022.

Moved Cr Gaddes Seconded Cr Widders

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

10. ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

10.1 Adoption of Catchment Water Quality Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Ref: AINT/2022/33152 (ARC21/4652)

167/22 RESOLVED

That Council Adopt the Catchment Water Quality Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Moved Cr Widders Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

10.2 ARC Renewable Energy Action Plan for Public Exhibition

Ref: AINT/2022/33457 (ARC21/4551)

168/22 RESOLVED

That Council:

- a. Endorse the Renewable Energy Action Plan noting the recommendations and priorities contained in section 7.2 of the report, including:
 - Increase energy awareness: ARC understands and controls energy usage to optimise productivity.
 - Move towards energy autonomy: ARC generates and supplies renewable energy to itself at a known and affordable price.
 - Engage carefully with Retailers: ARC is serviced by flexible, fair retail arrangements.
 - Electrify vehicles, plant, and equipment: Ensuring ARC fleet, plant and equipment is low-emission, affordable and effective.
 - Lead energy innovation: ARC becomes known as an attractive place for R&D, trials and implementation of new technology.
 - Have a stake in energy asset ownership: ARC receives additional revenue streams through the provision of utility services (micro grids, embedded networks, and alike).
 - Plan for energy security and climate resilience: Consider the relative importance of energy security at key sites and factor this into considerations for Behind the Meter

installations

b. Place the Renewable Energy Action Plan on public exhibition for a period of 28 days to obtain community feedback before returning to Council for adoption.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr Gaddes

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

11. OUR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

Nil.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 Armidale Regional Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting - Minutes of

Meetings held on 5 May 2022 and 9 June 2022 Ref: AINT/2022/32584 (ARC16/0605)

169/22 RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Armidale Regional Aboriginal Advisory Committee meetings held on 5 May 2022 and 9 June 2022 be noted.

Moved Cr O'Brien Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

12.2 Sports Council - Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 June 2022

Ref: AINT/2022/31454 (ARC16/0330)

170/22 **RESOLVED**

That Council note the Minutes of the Sports Council Committee meeting held on 8 June 2022.

Moved Cr Galletly Seconded Cr Gaddes

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

12.3 Traffic Advisory Committee - Minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2022

Ref: AINT/2022/32671 (ARC16/0168-7)

171/22 RESOLVED

That in relation to the report "Armidale Regional Council Traffic Advisory Committee Minutes – 2 August 2022", that Council:

- a) Endorse the change of the Taxi Zone to a Bus Zone in Ollera St Guyra and removal of the first two angle parking spaces to accommodate the bus zone.
- b) Endorse the change of the Taxi Zone in Bradley St Guyra to a Bus Zone used for the community bus.
- c) Endorse the change of the Taxi Zone in Moore St Guyra to a Bus Zone and monitored for use.
- d) Endorse the installation of a 'No Stopping' sign on the northern side of Kentucky Street Armidale opposite the Gymnastic Centre.
- e) Request TfNSW to investigate improving the intersection of Dangar and Kentucky Street Armidale to reduce traffic delays for turning traffic.

Moved Cr McMichael Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

12.4 KPWG - Minutes of meetings held June - August 2022

Ref: AINT/2022/32324 (ARC20/4323)

172/22 RESOLVED

That the following Minutes of the Key Pillar Working Group meetings held from June 2022 to August 2022 be noted;

- Future Region KPWG meeting held 16 June 2022
- Future Region KPWG meeting held 21 July 2022

Moved Cr Gaddes Seconded Cr Robinson

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

13. MATTERS OF AN URGENT NATURE

Nil

14. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

14.1 Question on Notice - Cr Robinson

Ref: AINT/2022/33378 (ARC16/0025-6)

173/22 **RESOLVED**

That Council note the response to the Questions on Notice submitted by Cr Robinson.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr McMichael

PROCEDURAL MOTION

174/22 RESOLVED

- a) That Council move into closed Session to receive and consider the following items:
- 15.1 Business Case for Continuation of Dattner Consultancy Phase 3 Engagement and Leadership Development 2022-2023. (AINT/2022/31666) (*General Manager's Note:* The report considers a tender and is deemed confidential under Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature which, if disclosed, confers a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business).
- 15.2 Debt Write-Off Request Sundry Debtor. (AINT/2022/32771) (*General Manager's Note:* The report considers hardship and is deemed confidential under Section 10A(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it deals with the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer).
- 15.3 New England Regional Art Museum's Capital Works Program Request for Support. (AINT/2022/33446) (*General Manager's Note:* The report considers NERAM and is deemed confidential under Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; or (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council; or (iii) reveal a trade secret).
- b) That Council exclude the press and public from the proceedings of the Council in Confidential Session pursuant to Section 10A, subsections 2 & 3 and section 10B of the Local Government Act 1993, on the basis that the items to be considered are of a confidential nature.
- c) That Council make the resolutions made in Confidential Session public as soon as practicable.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr McMichael

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

Council entered Closed Session at 5:08pm.

Council returned to Open Session at 5:37pm.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

175/22 **RESOLVED**

That Council move back into open Session and that the resolutions of the closed Session be made public.

Moved Cr Robinson Seconded Cr McMichael

15. CLOSED SESSION

15.1 Business Case for Continuation of Dattner Consultancy - Phase 3 - Engagement and Leadership Development 2022-2023 Ref: AINT/2022/31666 (ARC21/4551)

176/22 RESOLVED

- a. That Council continues to endorse the sole supplier Procurement Strategy of The Dattner Group to continue to provide high level and specialist consultancy services and a consistent approach to achieve Councils culture change objectives as part of the 'Restore and Thrive' Strategy;
- b. That this Procurement Strategy be endorsed under Section 55(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (that) an exception to the Act as endorsed for this contract where, because of extenuating circumstances, remoteness of locality or the unavailability of competitive or reliable tenderers, a council decides by resolution (which states the reasons for the decision) that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders" for the reasons outlined in this report;
- c. Endorse an upper level limit of \$240,000.00 (GST exclusive) for the continuation and/or completion of this project by the Dattner Group: 'Phase 3 An Inspired way Forward' consistent with funding approved in the 2022-23 Financial year budget and;
- d. That, should future follow up, additional strategy, programs and other key strategic value be considered by the General Manager for future stages to the benefit of Council that endorsement of appropriate funding based on estimates be given to the General Manager within the established budget parameters and reporting frameworks of Council.

Moved Cr Galletly Seconded Cr O'Brien

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

15.2 Debt Write-Off Request - Sundry Debtor

Ref: AINT/2022/32771 (ARC17/1711)

177/22 RESOLVED

That Council approve a write-off of \$14,865.73 (GST exclusive) for the debt as outlined in the report.

Moved Cr O'Connor Seconded Cr Robinson

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

Cr Paul Gaddes left the meeting, the time being 05:14 PM

15.3 New England Regional Art Museum's Capital Works Program - Request for Support Ref: AINT/2022/33446 (ARC16/0025-6)

178/22 **RESOLVED**

That Council defer a decision on this item until the September 2022 OCM

That by 5 September 2022;

- a. Council to determine its position in relation to expectations of NERAM in return for the funding extension
- b. Council to convey to NERAM additional information sought.
- c. Council request NERAM make a presentation to Councillors prior to the September OCM in relation to the funding extension sought.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - Move into committee of the whole Moved Cr Coupland Seconded Cr O'Brien

Standing orders were suspended at 5:15pm

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS - Move out of committee of the whole Moved Cr Coupland Seconded Cr Galletly

Standing orders were reinstated at 5:35pm

Moved Cr Coupland Seconded Cr O'Connor

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED unanimously.

Cr Paul Gaddes returned to the meeting, the time being 05:36 PM

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 5:40pm.