

Minutes

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE, COOTAMUNDRA

6:00PM, TUESDAY 26th August, 2025

Administration Centres: 1300 459 689

**MINUTES OF COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE, COOTAMUNDRA
ON TUESDAY, 26 AUGUST 2025 AT 6:00PM**

PRESENT: Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) via teams, Cr Rosalind Wight (Deputy Mayor), Cr Logan Collins, Cr Les Cooper, Cr David Graham, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Penny Nicholson, Cr Ethan Ryan, Cr Danyal Syed.

IN ATTENDANCE: Roger Bailey (Interim General Manager), Trevor Dando (Acting Deputy General Manager - Operations), Damian Smith (Acting Manager Finance), Linda Wiles (Manager Business), Anne Chamberlain (Governance Officer)

2 OPEN FORUM

Nil

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 22 JULY 2025

RESOLUTION 151/2025

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 22 July 2025 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

6 MAYORAL MINUTES

6.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT

RESOLUTION 152/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

The information in the Councillor Engagements Mayoral Minute be received and noted.

CARRIED

7 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

8.1 GENERAL MANAGER OFFICE

8.1.1 CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CLOSURE

RESOLUTION 153/2025

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

The Christmas 2025 and New Year 2026 closures for Council facilities be noted.

CARRIED

8.1.2 DRAFT COUNCILLOR AND STAFF INTERACTION POLICY

RESOLUTION 154/2025

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

- 1. That subject to the authorised staff member names and the 'Interim' and 'Acting' be removed in the Policy**
- 2. That the draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy be adopted.**

CARRIED

8.1.3 DRAFT DISABILITY AND INCLUSION ACTION PLAN 2025-29

RESOLUTION 155/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

- 1. The draft Disability and Inclusion Action Plan, attached to the report, be publicly exhibited for twenty-eight (28) days.**
- 2. If no submissions are received, endorse the Disability and Inclusion Action Plan at the completion of the exhibition period.**

CARRIED

8.2 BUSINESS

8.2.1 THE ARTS CENTRE COOTAMUNDRA S.355 COMMITTEE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES, AGM MINUTES AND MEMBERSHIP

RESOLUTION 156/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

- 1. The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 17 July 2025, and the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held 17 July 2025 of The Arts Centre Cootamundra s.355 Committee, attached to the report, be received and noted.**
- 2. The office bearers and membership of The Arts Centre Cootamundra s.355 Committee, be endorsed.**

CARRIED

8.2.2 COOTAMUNDRA HERITAGE CENTRE MANAGEMENT S.355 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION 157/2025

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr David Graham

The Minutes of the Cootamundra Heritage Centre Management s.355 Committee Meeting held 4 August 2025, attached to the report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.2.3 CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

RESOLUTION 158/2025

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That the Customer Service Charter, attached to the report, be endorsed.

CARRIED

8.2.4 PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING STRATEGY 2025-26

RESOLUTION 159/2025

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan
Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

That the report on the Public Library Funding Strategy 2025-26 be noted.

CARRIED

8.2.5 DELIVERY PROGRAM - OPERATIONAL PLAN QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

RESOLUTION 160/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins
Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

The Delivery Program incorporating the Operational Plan 2024/2025, quarterly progress report, (4th Quarter, April, May and June), attached to the report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.2.6 ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMERGER TRANSITION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 161/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins
Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council:

1. Authorise six Councillors to workshop with the Interim General Manager to develop recommendations for Council regarding the establishment of a Demerger Transition Committee, including:
 - i) the proposed composition of the Committee;
 - ii) draft Terms of Reference;
 - iii) any delegations to be conferred; and
 - iv) any other matters relevant to the Committee's establishment and the commencement of the demerger process.
2. Request that a report be presented to the September 2025 Council meeting outlining the outcomes of the workshop and recommendations for the establishment of the Committee.
3. Appoint the following Councillors to participate in the workshop:
 - o The Mayor;
 - o The Deputy Mayor;
 - o Two Councillors representing the Cootamundra area; and
 - o Two Councillors representing the Gundagai area.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved: Cr Logan Collins
Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council break for up to five minutes to allow Councillors to discuss representation for the workshop.

Recess at 6:30pm

The meeting resumed: 6.33

RESOLUTION 162/2025

Moved: Cr Collins

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

Council made a further resolution in relation to item 8.2.6, that Council appoint the following Councillors for the workshop.

- **Cootamundra: Cr Gil Kelly and Cr Ethan Ryan**
- **Gundagai: Cr Penny Nicholson and Cr David Graham**

CARRIED

8.2.7 EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS (ERA) MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

RESOLUTION 163/2025

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr David Graham

The proposed Membership Fee of \$8,720.21, for the Eastern Riverina Arts, as budgeted, be endorsed.

CARRIED

8.2.8 ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION 164/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

The Minutes of the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Meetings held, 23 July 2025 and 6 August 2025, attached to the report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.2.9 COOTAMUNDRA TURF CLUB SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

RESOLUTION 165/2025

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

That Council decline the sponsorship request from the Cootamundra Turf Club on the basis that it does not align with current Council priorities and that available funding may be required to support the demerger process.

CARRIED

8.3 FINANCE

8.3.1 FINANCE UPDATE - JULY 2025

RESOLUTION 166/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Abb McAlister

That the Finance Update report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.3.2 INVESTMENT REPORT - JULY 2025

RESOLUTION 167/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

The report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st July 2025, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.3.3 RESTRICTED CASH RECONCILIATION - JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 168/2025

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

- 1. The Restricted Cash Reconciliation report, be received and noted.**
- 2. That Council receive further advice on the transfer of internally restricted resources to unrestricted to compensate for the current shortfall as at 30 June 2025.**

CARRIED

8.3.4 RESTRICTED CASH RECONCILIATION - JULY 2025

RESOLUTION 169/2025

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

The Restricted Cash Reconciliation report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.4 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

8.4.1 DRAFT PLANNING AGREEMENT POLICY

RESOLUTION 170/2025

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

That Council:

1. **Amend clause 43.1 of the draft policy to say “Where Council is the determining authority for a development application involving a planning agreement the Councillors will not be involved in the negotiation of the planning agreement but a decision on whether the Council will enter into a planning agreement will be made by resolution of the governing body of the Council”.**
2. **Endorse and publicly exhibit the Draft Planning Agreements Policy for a period of not less than 28 days; and**
3. **Adopt the Policy if no substantive submissions are received during the exhibition period; and**
4. **If substantive submissions are received, the draft policy be reviewed and further report be presented to the Council for consideration.**

CARRIED

8.4.2 NEGOTIATION OF PLANNING AGREEMENT - BONDO WINDFARM

RESOLUTION 171/2025

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

That Council:

1. **Authorise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Interim General Manager to enter into negotiations with NEOEN on behalf of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council for the purpose of securing Benefit Sharing Funds including a Planning Agreement in relation to the proposed Bondo Wind Farm subject of State Significant Development application (SSD-86276211); and**
2. **That such negotiations be undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and associated regulations and in consideration of Planning agreement Practice Note published by NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Industry May 2025 and Benefit-Sharing Guideline dated November 2024.**

CARRIED

8.4.3 NEGOTIATION OF AMENDED PLANNING AGREEMENT - EULONGA QUARRY**RESOLUTION 172/2025**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins
Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That Council resolve to:

1. Authorise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Interim General Manager to enter into negotiations with the Developer of the Eulonga Quarry on behalf of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council for the purpose of an Amended Planning Agreement in relation to current Development Application DA 2025/32 and current approved quarry operations; and
2. That such negotiations be undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and associated regulations and in consideration of Planning agreement Practice Note published by NSW Department of Planning.

CARRIED

8.4.4 DA 2025/47 - PROPOSED DWELLING - 17 NEIL MCINERNEY STREET, GUNDAGAI**RESOLUTION 173/2025**

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson
Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

That Council resolve to approve DA 2025/47 subject to conditions of consent as outlined in the accompanying Draft Notice of Determination and authorise minor amendments to correct any errors prior to issuing the final notice.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD	
FOR RESOLUTION	AGAINST RESOLUTION
Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) Cr Rosalind Wight Cr Logan Collins Cr Les Cooper Cr David Graham Cr Gil Kelly Cr Penny Nicholson Cr Ethan Ryan Cr Danyal Syed	Nil

ABSENT	DECLARED INTEREST
Nil	Nil

8.4.5 DA 2025/85 - ERECTION OF A GARAGE - 150 ADAMS STREET, COOTAMUNDRA

RESOLUTION 174/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

That Council resolve to approve DA 2025/85 for the erection of a shed/garage, subject to the conditions of consent detailed in the accompanying Draft Notice of Determination and authorise minor amendments to correct any errors prior to issuing the final notice.

VOTING RECORD	
FOR RESOLUTION	AGAINST RESOLUTION
Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor)	Nil
Cr Rosalind Wight	
Cr Logan Collins	
Cr Les Cooper	
Cr David Graham	
Cr Gil Kelly	
Cr Penny Nicholson	
Cr Ethan Ryan	
Cr Danyal Syed	
ABSENT	DECLARED INTEREST
Nil	Nil

CARRIED

8.4.6 DA 2025/73 - PROPOSED CARPORT - 5 CAMPBELL STREET, COOTAMUNDRA

RESOLUTION 175/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That Council resolve to approve DA 2025/73 for the erection of a new carport attached to the existing dwelling, subject to the conditions of consent detailed in the accompanying Draft Notice of Determination and authorise minor amendments to correct any errors prior to issuing the final notice.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD	
FOR RESOLUTION	AGAINST RESOLUTION
Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) Cr Rosalind Wight Cr Logan Collins Cr Les Cooper Cr David Graham Cr Gil Kelly Cr Penny Nicholson Cr Ethan Ryan Cr Danyal Syed	Nil
ABSENT	
Nil	Nil

8.5 ENGINEERING COOTAMUNDRA

8.5.1 COOTAMUNDRA ENGINEERING REPORT - AUGUST 2025

RESOLUTION 176/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham
Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

That the Cootamundra Engineering Report for the month of July 2025 be noted.

CARRIED

8.5.2 TfNSW 2025 AUTHORISATION-DELEGATION INSTRUMENT

RESOLUTION 177/2025

Moved: Cr Les Cooper
Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

1. **That Council endorses the use of the new TfNSW 2025 Authorisation-Delegation – Prescribed Traffic Control Devices and Regulation of Traffic (the Instrument).**
2. **That Council staff proceed with approvals as outlined in the attached documents.**
3. **That the Local Transport Forum be consulted where required.**

CARRIED

8.5.3 HEAVY VEHICLE TRAVEL RESTRICTION ON LOCAL ROADS

MOTION

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

- 1. That Council prohibit vehicles exceeding 64.5 tonnes and 26 metres from using Council controlled roads, except for the following situations, which are to be assessed on a case by case basis:**
 - a. Indivisible Loads**
 - b. Vehicles which have been assessed to be suitable through the development approval processes.**
 - c. Where Council engineers have assessed infrastructure to warrant a different restriction on dimensions and/or weight of the vehicle.**
- 2. That Council liaise with industry stakeholders to implement the restriction.**

The MOTION was withdrawn.

RESOLUTION 178/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That a Council workshop in relation to Heavy vehicle Travel Restriction on local roads be held.

CARRIED

8.6 ENGINEERING GUNDAGAI

8.6.1 GUNDAGAI ENGINEERING REPORT - AUGUST 2025

RESOLUTION 179/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

The Gundagai Engineering Report for the month of July 2025 be noted.

CARRIED

8.7 REGIONAL SERVICES GUNDAGAI

8.7.1 GUNDAGAI REGIONAL SERVICES REPORT - JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 180/2025

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

The Gundagai Regional Services Department, Monthly works report for July be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.8 REGIONAL SERVICES COOTAMUNDRA

8.8.1 REGIONAL SERVICES - COOTAMUNDRA MONTHLY WORKS REPORT

RESOLUTION 181/2025

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

The Regional Services – Cootamundra Monthly Works Report for the month of July 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED

9 MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

10 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

11.1 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT

RESOLUTION 182/2025

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

- 1. Council entered Closed Council at 7.06pm.**
- 2. Items 11.2 and 11.3 be considered in closed Council at which the press and public are excluded in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and related public interest reasons detailed.**
- 3. In accordance with section 11 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other documentation relating to Items 11.2 and 11.3 be withheld from the press and public.**

CARRIED

11.2 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

RESOLUTION 183/2025

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly
Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

That the information in the Human Resources Report be noted.

CARRIED

11.3 COOTAMUNDRA AND GUNDAGAI POOL CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

RESOLUTION 184/2025

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly
Seconded: Cr David Graham

That Council authorises the Interim General Manager (IGM) to enter into negotiations to exercise a one-year contract extension with both the current contractor who manages the Cootamundra pool and stadium, and the current contractor who manages the Gundagai pool and gym.

CARRIED

11.4 RESUMPTION OF OPEN COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION 185/2025

Moved: Cr David Graham
Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

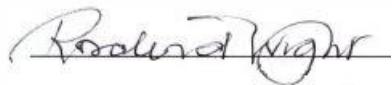
That the Open Council meeting resume at 7.08pm.

CARRIED

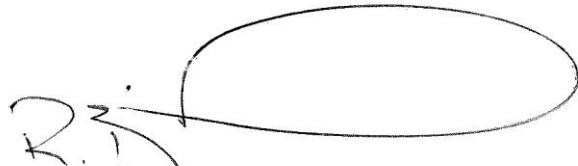
11.5 ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Note: The Interim General Manager announced the resolutions made in Closed Council.

The Meeting closed at 7.10pm.



CHAIRPERSON



GENERAL MANAGER