

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING  
OF THE RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, RICHMOND ON  
WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 2023

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**PRESENT**

Present when Mayor Wharton declared the meeting open at 11:25am were:

COUNCILLORS:

Cr Kuhl, Cr Fox, Cr Johnston, Cr Kennedy and Cr Buick.

STAFF:

Chief Executive Officer – Peter Bennett, Director of Community Services and Development – Angela Henry, Director of Corporate Services – Peta Mitchell, Director of Works – Syed Qadir and Minutes Secretaries – Tiana Grant and Adelaide Tritton.

**PRAYER**

Cr Kuhl read the prayer

**APOLOGIES**

Nil

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION 20230419.1**

*It was moved Cr Buick seconded Cr Fox and carried that the Minutes of the General Meeting of the Richmond Shire Council held in the Board Room, Richmond on Tuesday 21 March 2023 be adopted with changes.*

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mayor Cr Wharton called for Declarations of Interest in matters listed on the Agenda:

**Item 4.1 Community Drought Support Funding**

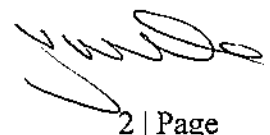
I, Councillor Wharton inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 4.1 Reports for Consideration – Community Services, as a result that I am a member of discussed community groups.

I, Councillor Kuhl inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 4.1 Reports for Consideration – Community Services, as a result that I am a member of discussed community groups.

I, Councillor Fox inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 4.1 Reports for Consideration – Community Services, as a result that I am a member of discussed community groups.

I, Councillor Johnston inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 4.1 Reports for Consideration – Community Services, as a result that I am a member of discussed community groups.

I, Councillor Kennedy inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 4.1 Reports for Consideration – Community Services, as a result that I am a member of discussed community groups.



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I, Councillor Buick inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 4.1 Reports for Consideration – Community Services, as a result that I am a member of discussed community groups.

Due to the nature of the item, it was agreed by Council that Councillors were not required to leave the room.

**BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**2.1 Rural Fence Subsidy Policy**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council to review and adopt the Rural Fence Subsidy Policy with changes.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: adopt the Rural Fence Subsidy Policy with changes.*

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.2**

*It was moved Cr Buick seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Rural Fence Subsidy Policy with changes.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Policy

**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**2.2 Nature Strip Policy**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the March 2023 Council Meeting it was agreed to create and adopt a Nature Strip Policy.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: adopt the Nature Strip Policy as presented.*

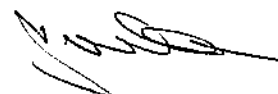
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**RESOLUTION 20230419.3**

*It was moved Cr Kuhl seconded Cr Kennedy and carried that Council adopt the Nature Strip Policy with changes.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Policy



**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**2.3 Garbage Collection Policy**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council to review and adopt the Garbage Collection Policy with changes.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: adopt the Garbage Collection Policy with changes.*

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.4**

*It was moved Cr Kennedy seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Garbage Collection Policy with changes.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Policy

**Attendance**

Cr Fox left the room at 12:04pm.

Cr Fox re-entered the room at 12:07pm.

**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**2.4 Drug and Alcohol Policy**

**Attendance**

Cr Kennedy left the room at 12:17pm.

Cr Kennedy re-entered the room at 12:18pm.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council to review and adopt the Drug and Alcohol Policy with changes.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: adopt the Drug and Alcohol Policy with changes.*

**Attendance**

Cr Johnston left the room at 12:21pm.

Cr Wharton left the room at 12:24pm and Cr Kuhl took the chair.

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Council discussed at length the Drug and Alcohol Policy and unanimously agreed to consult Council solicitors and bring the Policy back to the June Council Meeting with the Drug and Alcohol procedure.

**Attendance**

Cr Johnston re-entered the room at 12:28pm.

Cr Wharton re-entered the room at 12:31 and took the chair.

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Policy



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**RESOLUTION 20230419.5**

*It was moved Cr Buick seconded Cr Kennedy and carried that Council adjourn the meeting for lunch at 12:33pm.*

**RESOLUTION 20230419.6**

*It was moved Cr Kuhl seconded Cr Buick and carried that Council resume the meeting for at 1:10pm.*

**Attendance**

Cr Wharton left the room at 1:12pm and Cr Kuhl took the chair.

**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**2.5 Audit Committee Charter Policy**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council to review and adopt the Audit Committee Charter Policy with changes.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: adopt the Audit Committee Charter Policy with changes.*

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.7**

*It was moved Cr Johnston seconded Cr Kennedy and carried that Council adopt the Audit Committee Charter Policy as presented.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Policy

**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**2.6 North West Queensland Regional Biosecurity Plan 2022-2027**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Richmond Shire Council are to adopt the North West Queensland Regional Biosecurity Plan 2022-2027. Southern Gulf NRM has advised that the adoption of the Plan by all Councils will be a strong signal to governments at both state and federal levels of the commitment of the region to improved biosecurity outcomes.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: adopt the North West Queensland Regional Biosecurity Plan 2022-2027 as presented.*

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.8**

*It was moved Cr Kennedy seconded Cr Fox and carried that Council adopt the North West Queensland Regional Biosecurity Plan 2022-2027 as presented.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Biosecurity Plan



**3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – CORPORATE SERVICES**

**Item 3.1 Monthly Financial Report**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council's monthly financial report in relation to the 2022/23 adopted budget is presented for consideration, together with Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cash Flow as at 31 March 2023.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council: Receive the monthly financial report presenting the progress made as at 31 March 2023 in relation to the 2022/23 budget and including the:**

- **Statement of Financial Position**
- **Statement of Comprehensive Income**
- **Statement of Cash Flows**

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.9**

*It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Buick and carried that Council Receive the monthly financial report presenting the progress made as at 31 March 2023 in relation to the 2022/23 budget and including the:*

- *Statement of Financial Position*
- *Statement of Comprehensive Income*
- *Statement of Cash Flows*

**Attendance**

Cr Wharton re-entered the room at 1:29pm and took the chair.

**3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – CORPORATE SERVICES**

**Item 3.2 Operational Plan 2022-2023**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As required by Section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a progress report on the implementation of Council's 2022/2023 Operational Plan at the end of the March quarter is tabled for Council's consideration.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council: receive and note the Quarter 3 progress report of Richmond Shire Council 2022/2023 Operational Plan for the March 2023 reporting period.**

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.10**

*It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council receive and note the Quarter 3 progress report of RSC 2022/2023 Operational Plan for the March 2023 reporting period.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Operational Plan



#### 4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – COMMUNITY SERVICES

##### Item 4.1 Community Drought Support Funding

###### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Applications for Community Drought Support were received before Expressions of Interest were called – two were for over the agreed \$2,000.00 cap. To keep it fair and equitable to all clubs the Expressions of Interest were called for without the agreed \$2,000.00 cap due to these early applications.

###### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

*That Council: determine an allocation to each of the clubs.*

###### RESOLUTION 20230419.11

*It was moved Cr Kuhl seconded Cr Kennedy and carried that Council distribute the \$18,288.71 evenly in \$2,000.00 increments among all the of clubs that applied for the funding including the late submission from Richmond Athletics NWQ Club except for the two clubs that requested \$1,000.00. The remaining amount will be charged as administration fees.*

###### REFERENCE DOCUMENT

- Nil

#### CLOSED SESSION

#### 2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

##### 2.7 Wi-Sky Queensland Upgrades in Richmond

###### RESOLUTION 20230419.12

*It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council enter a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 254J, (3) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.*

###### Attendance

Cr Wharton left the room at 2:06pm and Cr Kuhl took the chair.

Cr Wharton re-entered the room at 2:13pm and took the chair.

Cr Johnston left the room at 2:18pm.

Cr Johnston re-entered the room at 2:20pm.

###### RESOLUTION 20230419.13

*It was moved Cr Kuhl, seconded Cr Buick and carried that Council exit a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 254J, (3) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.*

###### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Wi-Sky Queensland are in the process of preparing a funding application to the Regional Connectivity Program, Round 3 to install an ultra-high speed 5G network in Richmond. In preparation for this project Wi-Sky have asked for some assistance.



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**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council: consider the following requests from Wi-Sky Queensland.*

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**RESOLUTION 20230419.14**

*It was moved Cr Kuhl seconded Cr Kennedy and carried that Council support the requests with conditions.*

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

- Letter

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Buick asked if Richmond would consider West FM radio station as Charters Towers, Hughenden and Longreach have just launched it in their Shires. CEO Peter Bennett advised that the equipment that we currently have for the radio stations are over 10 years old and are at the end of their working life and would need to be considered as a budget item before Council purchase anything new.

Cr Kennedy advised Council that he and CEO Peter Bennett have decided on a company to purchase the flood cameras and are in the process of obtaining funding.

Cr Kennedy noted that the road repairs in the Shire are behind schedule due to the prolonged wet season. Director of Works Syed Qadir and Cr Kennedy are to meet to discuss this further.

Cr Johnston asked CEO Peter Bennett if Council had received an updated line marking quote for the Richmond township. CEO Peter Bennett announced that a new quote for approximately \$30,000.00 had been received but needed to alter the current budget to complete the works before the end of the financial year. Council unanimously agreed to add it to the 2022/2023 budget from operating surplus.

Cr Wharton gave an update at the small businesses meeting regarding CopperString.

**CLOSE OF MEETING**

**RESOLUTION 20230419.15**

*It was moved Cr Kuhl, seconded Cr Fox, and carried that the information reports be received and noted.*

**Meeting closure**

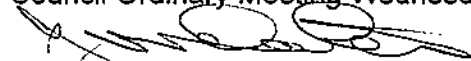
**RESOLUTION 20230419.16**

*It was moved Cr Kuhl, seconded Cr Buick and carried that the meeting close at 2:53pm.*

**Next Ordinary Meeting**

16 May 2023

I hereby confirm that this is a true and correct record of the minutes of the Richmond Shire Council Ordinary Meeting Wednesday 19 April 2023.



Mayor