



ORDINARY MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, 17 July 2025

THE MEETING WAS HELD AT 4:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 76 CAPPER STREET TUMUT AND VIA
VIDEO LINK



Thursday, 17 July 2025

Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link

4:00 PM

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PRESENT: Mayor Julia Ham, Cr Grant Hardwick, Cr James Hayes, Cr Michael Inglis, Cr John Larter, Cr Hugh Packard, Cr David Sheldon, Cr Trina Thomson, Cr Andrew Wortes

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting General Manager Jessica Quilty, Acting Director Community, Corporate & Development Nick Wilton, Director Infrastructure & Works Duncan Mitchell, Chief Financial Officer Manna Doshii

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

An acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land was delivered by Cr Ham.

3. APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE

Nil.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cr Julia Ham declared a pecuniary interest in relation to report 11.2 Humelink Community Investment and Benefits Program Funding due to a close personal and financial interest and will leave the room during discussion.

Cr Hugh Packard and Cr James Hayes declared a non-significant non-pecuniary interest in relation to report 10.7 Draft Managing Conflict of Interest for Council Related Development Policy due to Country Universities Centre building renovations and will remain in the room during discussion.

Acting General Manager declared a non-pecuniary significant interest in relation to report 11.7 Expression of Interest Outcome – Lot 1 DP1163661 – Capper Street Tumut, due to a relative being a submitter of an Expression of Interest and will leave the room during discussion.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1. MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL - 19 JUNE 2025

M169/25 RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 June 2025 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

Cr Thomson/Cr Sheldon

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS

Nil.

7. MAYORAL MINUTE

7.1. MAYORAL MINUTE - AMBASSADOR OF DENMARK VISIT TO SNOWY VALLEYS

M170/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Endorse appreciation for the recent visit to the Snowy Valleys area by the Ambassador of Denmark to Australia, Her Excellency Mrs Ingrid Dahl-Madsen
2. Support and encourage the ongoing friendship to the Danish community through their interest with the Snowy Valleys Sculpture Trail.

Cr Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2. MAYORAL MINUTE - OPENING OF TUMBARUMBA SPORTS ACADEMY

M171/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the acknowledgement of the opening of the Tumbarumba Sports Academy.

Cr Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3. MAYORAL MINUTE - VALE SHIRLEY WILLIAMS-ENEVER

M172/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Recognise the passing of Shirley Williams-Enever, long-term Council employee.

Cr Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.4 MAYORAL MINUTE – ACKNOWLEDGING NEW PRESIDENTS OF ROTARY AND LIONS

M173/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Acknowledge the new presidents of Tumut, Batlow and Tumbarumba Rotary Clubs and Lions Clubs.

Cr Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.5 MAYORAL MINUTE – MINISTER’S SUPPORT FOR COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL DE-MERGER

M174/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Congratulate Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council on the announcement of the Minister's approval for a de-merger.

Cr Ham

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. NOTICE OF MOTION/NOTICE OF RESCISSION

8.1. NOTICE OF MOTION - PRODUCTIVITY AND COST SAVINGS PLAN - CR DAVID SHELDON

M175/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Prepare a productivity and cost savings plan to improve Council's financial position over the term of the current Council;
2. Receive a report every 6 months on the progress towards the objectives contained within the plan.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Larter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2. NOTICE OF MOTION - PROTECT ELMS NEAR RACECOURSE - CR TRINA THOMSON

M176/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Prepare a report on options to protect the iconic Elms located on Broughton Street and Elm Drive from vandalism caused by inappropriate driving behaviours.

Cr Thomson/Cr Packard

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3. NOTICE OF MOTION - LOBBYING FOR ROAD SAFETY - CR TRINA THOMSON

M177/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Commence lobbying State and Federal governments to have overtaking and/or passing lanes, as well as adequate areas to allow vehicles to 'pull off' the road safely should there be need for them

to do so for either reasons such as fatigue or mechanical issues such as a flat tyre; on the roads between Tumut and Tumbarumba, Tumut and Talbingo, Batlow turnoff to the top of the Gap at Adelong on the Snowy Mountains Highway.

2. Identify the issues that have arisen on major access roads across our Local Government Area because of projects approved as having state or federal significance such as Snowy 2.0 and the associated transmission projects and act to minimize risk.

Cr Thomson/Cr Sheldon

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Sheldon, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Larter; Cr Wortes

CARRIED

7/2

9. URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

M178/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Write to the new RFS Commissioner, Trent Curtin, inviting him to visit Snowy Valleys Council, promptly, to discuss the collaboration of Snowy Valleys Council with independent aviation operators and the RFS.

Cr Larter/Cr Sheldon

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

10.1. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ACTION REPORT - JULY 2025

M179/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on the Council resolution actions as at July 2025.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Packard

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2. LGNSW CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE TRAINING FOR COUNCILLORS 23 JULY 2025

M180/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Endorse the participation of Cr David Sheldon in the LGNSW Code of Meeting Practice for Councillor training course on 23 July 2025; and

2. Approve participation of other Councillors wishing to enrol in the above training course, provided there are sufficient funds within budget allocations at the time of registration.

Cr Packard/Cr Hardwick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.3. 2025 RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS CONFERENCE 10-11 SEPTEMBER WAGGA WAGGA

M181/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Endorse the attendance of Deputy Mayor Hugh Packard and Cr Trina Thomson at the 2025 Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils Conference; and
2. Approve the attendance of other Councillors wishing to attend the 2025 Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils Conference, provided there are sufficient funds within budget allocations at the time of registering.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Hayes

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.4. 2025 LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 23-25 NOVEMBER PENRITH

M182/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Authorise the attendance of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and other Councillors wishing to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference;
2. Nominate the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as voting delegates for motions at the LGNSW Annual Conference;
3. Encourage Councillors to submit proposed motions to the Acting General Manager by Monday, 28 July 2025 to be reported to the August 2025 Council Meeting; and
4. Grant delegated authority to the Mayor to request the Acting General Manager to submit any further proposed motions, after consulting with Councillors, prior to the deadline for submitting motions.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Hayes

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.5. REVIEW - DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT AND DRAFT PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTRATION CODE OF CONDUCT**M183/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on the Code of Conduct and the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct;
2. Adopt the Code of Conduct SVC-RP-STY-001-05; and
3. Adopt the Procedures for the Administration of the Model of Code of Conduct SVC-RP-STY-002-04.

Cr Thomson/Cr Wortes

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**10.6. REVIEW - DRAFT CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE****M184/25 RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on the Code of Meeting Practice;
2. Adopt the Code of Meeting Practice - SVC-EXE-M-023-06.

Cr Packard/Cr Hardwick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**10.7. DRAFT MANAGING CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR COUNCIL RELATED DEVELOPMENT POLICY****M185/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Endorse the Draft Managing Conflict of Interest for Council Related Development Policy SVC-DEV-PO-151-01 for public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days;
2. Note if submissions are received during the exhibition, a further report will be provided to Council; and
3. Adopt the Draft Managing Conflict of Interest for Council Related Development Policy if no submissions are received on the day after the completion of the public exhibition period.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Wortes

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Sheldon, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Inglis

CARRIED**8/1**

10.8. PROPOSAL TO ALTER FIRST NATIONS LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING FORMAT**M186/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Endorse the request to hold separate First Nations Liaison Committee Meetings for Tumbarumba and Tumut;
2. Endorse the updated Terms of Reference for the First Nations Liaison Committee.

Cr Thomson/Cr Wortes

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**10.9. COUNCILLORS EXPENSES FOR THE SIX MONTH PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2025****M187/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on Councillor Expenses for the six (6) month period ending 30 June 2025.

Cr Packard/Cr Thomson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**10.10. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - JUNE 2025****M188/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on Statement of Investments - June 2025.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Packard

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**11. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - JULY 2025**M189/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project - Update - July 2025 Report.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Packard

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Sheldon

CARRIED**8/1**

The Mayor left the meeting at 4.55pm and the Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair.

11.2. HUMELINK COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AND BENEFITS PROGRAM FUNDING

M190/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Endorse the submission of the below listed projects to the HumeLink Community Investment and Benefits Program funding:
 - a. Batlow Cider Rail Trail
 - b. Food, Organics and Garden Organics Composting Facility Upgrades
 - c. Carcoola Playground Upgrade
 - d. Tumbarumba Pool Amenities Upgrades
 - e. Batlow Literacy Institute Upgrades
 - f. Old Tumut Bridge Restoration for Pedestrian and Cycling connection
 - g. Khancoban Preschool Building Upgrades
 - h. Tumbarumba Caravan Park - Stage 1 Master Plan and Business Plan implementation - Amenities block upgrade
 - i. Adelong Caravan Park - accommodation upgrade

Cr Thomson/Cr Wortes

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes

Against: Cr Sheldon

CARRIED

7/1

Mayor Ham returned to the meeting at 5.13pm and resumed the position of Chair.

11.3. PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS 2024/2025 SEASON REPORT

M191/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the 2024/2025 season performance of Council's five public swimming pools including attendance numbers and financial results;
2. Provide free adult swimming lessons at all pools;
3. Implement unsupervised swimming pools management arrangements at Batlow and Khancoban pools during weekdays including the lowering of age for swipe card entry to 15 and under 15's who are accompanied by a parent, guardian or carer;

4. Propose to delay Tumut opening by two weeks in line with Adelong and extend all pools by one week at the end of the season; and
5. Confirm opening dates for pools for the 2025/2026 season are:
 - a. Adelong and Tumut - 25th October 2025 to 15th March 2026
 - i. Mon to Fri - 2.30pm to 6.30pm
 - ii. Weekends and school holidays - 10am to 6.30pm
 - iii. Swipe card access - 11th October 2025 to 22nd March
 - iv. Swipe card access weekdays - 6am to 8pm
 - v. Swipe card access weekends - 7am to 8pm
 - b. Batlow, Khancoban - 22nd November 2025 to 15th March 2026
 - i. Weekends - 12pm to 6.30pm
 - ii. Swipe card access - 8th November 2025 to 22nd March
 - iii. Swipe card access - 7am to 8pm
 - c. Tumbarumba - 22nd November 2025 to 15th March 2026
 - i. Mon to Fri - 3pm to 6.30pm
 - ii. Weekends and school holidays - 12pm to 6.30pm
 - iii. Swipe card access - 8th November 2025 to 22nd March
 - iv. Swipe card access - 7am to 8pm

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Larter, Cr Sheldon

CARRIED

7/2

11.4. REMOVAL OF POSITIVE COVENANT - WALLS CREEK ROAD, GOOBARRAGANDRA

M192/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. That Council release the positive covenant affecting Lots 3 DP 865358, Lot 4 DP 865358, Lot 5 DP 1027218 and Lot 6 DP 1027218, on Walls Creek Road, Goobarragandra; and
2. Delegate the Mayor and Acting General Manager to affix the Council Seal and execute documents relevant to the removal of the covenants.

Cr Larter/Cr Packard

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.5. REQUEST FOR ROAD CLOSURE AND SALE - LOT 6 DP 255952 - OFF SNOWY MOUNTAINS HIGHWAY, TUMUT

M193/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Approve the closure and sale of the paper road adjacent to Lot 6 DP 255952 off Snowy Mountains Highway in Tumut, subject to the terms of sale being met including:
 - a. compliance with the legislative framework for the sale of land and roads contained within the *Real Property Act 1900*, the *Roads Act 1993*, and the current NSW Registrar Generals - Land Registry Services Guidelines for the closure and sale of public roads;
 - b. sale price of the land is to be determined by an independent valuation of the land based on both the surrounding land use zoning and the future "highest and best use" land zoning if the land is to be re-zoned and not the current zoning of the land under Councils' current Local Environmental Plan
 - c. The area of land (approximately 3,250m²) to be sold is to be confirmed in a land survey prepared by a registered land surveyor;
 - d. The brief for the land valuation is to be prepared by Council and the Land Valuer is to be engaged directly by Council;
 - e. All costs including land valuation costs, land survey costs, preparation of contract for sale costs, land re-zoning costs, consultation costs, notification costs, planning, legal and all other costs associated with the sale and transfer of the land are to be borne by the applicant;
 - f. A bond of \$7,770 be sought from the applicant upfront before Council staff undertake any work on the road closure, subdivision and sale of the land and that an administration fee of \$2,000 also be charged for Council staff time and associated administration costs. The costs identified above (e) will be paid for out of the bond with any unused funds returned to the applicant.
2. Seek concurrence and approval from Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) and Crown Lands in writing on the sale of this road before any valuation or sales process is undertaken by any party;
3. Notify all adjoining property owners of any decision of Council to sell the land before any valuation or sales process is undertaken by any party including Council;
4. Authorise the Acting General Manager to obtain an independent valuation of the land and negotiate the sale of the land;
5. Delegate the Mayor and Acting General Manager to affix the Council Seal and execute documents relevant to the sale of the land; and
6. Request a subsequent report to Council on the outcome of the sale of the land.

Cr Hayes/Cr Hardwick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.6. LEASING TRANSACTION REPORT - 4th QUARTER 2024/2025**M194/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

2. Note the report on leasing transactions in the Snowy Valleys Council Local Government Area for the 4th Quarter (Period commencing 1 April 2025 to 30 June 2025).

Cr Packard/Cr Thomson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Acting General Manager left the meeting at 5.25pm.

11.7. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST OUTCOME - LOT 1 DP1163661 - CAPPER STREET TUMUT**MOTION:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Commits to the next step of the proposal that has been received through the Public Expression of Interest (EOI) process which is the preparation of an 'Options Agreement' - which will be at the cost of the applicant;
2. Does not take on the role or responsibility of land developer for this parcel of land, that responsibility and risk rests with the applicant;
3. Receives the draft 'Options Agreement' when it is finalised and the Agreement is endorsed by Council to proceed to the next steps of the proposal;
4. Notes that if the 'Options Agreement' is endorsed by Council, the next steps of the proposal would involve the applicant preparing a Planning Proposal for the Development and lodging a future Development Application, both of which will be assessed by Council; and
5. Prepare a Probity Plan for this project if Council proceeds with the preparation of an 'Options Agreement' which is to be prepared by an independent Probity consultant.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

M195/25 RESOLVED to move into Committee of the Whole.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Larter, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Sheldon, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Hayes

CARRIED**8/1**

Cr Sheldon left the meeting at 5.37pm and returned at 5.39pm.

M196/25 RESOLVED to move out of Committee of the Whole.

Cr Wortes/Cr Packard

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.7. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST OUTCOME - LOT 1 DP1163661 - CAPPER STREET TUMUT

M197/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Commits to the next step of the proposal that has been received through the Public Expression of Interest (EOI) process which is the preparation of an 'Options Agreement' - which will be at the cost of the applicant;
2. Does not take on the role or responsibility of land developer for this parcel of land, that responsibility and risk rests with the applicant;
3. Receives the draft 'Options Agreement' when it is finalised and the Agreement is endorsed by Council to proceed to the next steps of the proposal;
4. Notes that if the 'Options Agreement' is endorsed by Council, the next steps of the proposal would involve the applicant preparing a Planning Proposal for the Development and lodging a future Development Application, both of which will be assessed by Council;
5. Requires the proponent to present to Council the options agreement and financial capability; and
6. Prepare a Probity Plan for this project if Council proceeds with the preparation of an 'Options Agreement' which is to be prepared by an independent Probity consultant.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Sheldon, Cr Inglis

CARRIED

7/2

The Acting General Manager returned to the meeting at 5.48pm.

12. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12.1. MINUTES - YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE - 12 JUNE 2025

M198/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive the report Youth Council Committee Matters - 12 June 2025.
2. Adopt the following recommendations from the Minutes:

- a. Changing status of voting member Atticus Blenkins to non-voting member and removal of voting member Cameron Foley, to support better quorum numbers and less meeting cancellations.
- b. Meetings will now be held in Tumut Council Office until new memberships are received from Tumbarumba area.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Larter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. CONFIDENTIAL

M199/25 RESOLVED that Council move into Confidential to consider the matters listed in the confidential section of the agenda in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the reasons specified:

13.1 CONFIDENTIAL - WRITE-OFF OF DEBTS

Item 13.1 is confidential under the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A (2) (b) and (e) as it relates to the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer, information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law, and Council considers that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Sheldon left the meeting at 5.49pm and did not return.

The meeting was closed to the public at 5.49pm.

13.1. CONFIDENTIAL - WRITE-OFF OF DEBTS

M200/25 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the write-off and adjustments totalling \$19,148.88 made under delegated authority for the period of 1 December 2018 to 30 June 2025.

Cr Packard/Cr Hardwick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Inglis left the meeting at 5.51pm and did not return.

M201/25 RESOLVED to move back into open session.

Cr Packard/Cr Hardwick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At this point, the time being 5.53pm, the meeting moved back into open session.

The Mayor provided a verbal report of the resolutions made during confidential session.

14. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 5.54pm.