

# Minutes

**Ordinary Council Meeting** 

20 March 2025

# ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BOMBALA COMMUNITY CENTRE, 163 MAYBE STREET, BOMBALA

#### **ON THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2025**

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## MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BOMBALA COMMUNITY CENTRE, 163 MAYBE STREET, BOMBALA

#### ON THURSDAY, 20 MARCH 2025 COMMENCING AT 1:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Mayor Christopher Hanna

Deputy Mayor Tricia Hopkins Councillor Narelle Davis

Councillor Nick Elliott

Councillor Tanya Higgins – Via Audio-Visual

Councillor John Rooney Councillor Reuben Rose Councillor Bob Stewart

Councillor Lynda Summers – Via Audio-Visual

Councillor Andrew Thaler Councillor Luke Williamson

APOLOGIES: Nil

Staff: Stephen Dunshea, Chief Executive Officer

David Rawlings, Chief Strategy Officer

John Gargett, Acting Chief Infrastructure & Projects Officer

Tony Murray, Chief Community Services Officer

Angela Sommerville, Chief People & Organisational Performance Officer

Patricia Swain, Secretary Council and Committees

#### 1. OPENING MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 1:00 PM

#### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

#### 3. COUNCILLOR REQUEST FOR ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO-VISUAL

#### **Procedural Motion**

**MOTION** 

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 13/25

That Council approve the remote attendance of Councillor Higgins, Councillor Summers at the meeting on 20 March 2025, via audio-visual link.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Councillor Rooney CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Summers and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Thaler

#### 4. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

NIL

#### PROCEDURAL MOTION

#### ADJOURNMENT TO PUBLIC FORUM

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

THAT THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 1.08PM FOR PUBLIC FORUM.

MOVED MAYOR HANNA

**SECONDED COUNCILLOR DAVIS** 

**RECORD OF VOTING** 

COUNCILLORS FOR: COUNCILLOR DAVIS, COUNCILLOR ELLIOTT, MAYOR HANNA, COUNCILLOR

HIGGINS, DEPUTY MAYOR HOPKINS, COUNCILLOR ROONEY, COUNCILLOR ROSE, COUNCILLOR STEWART, COUNCILLOR SUMMERS, COUNCILLOR THALER AND

COUNCILLOR WILLIAMSON.

COUNCILLORS AGAINST: NIL

At 01:08 pm Councillor Summers left the meeting.

At 01:43 pm Councillor Summers returned to the meeting.

At 02:04 pm Councillor Thaler left the meeting.

At 02:04 pm Councillor Thaler returned to the meeting.

#### **RESUMPTION OF MEETING**

The Ordinary Council Meeting be resumed at 2.05pm.

#### 5. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

#### **5.1 COUNCILLOR THALER**

Councillor Thaler declared an non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.12, as he lives in the same street and Item 11.18 as he is the original complainant.

#### 5.2 COUNCILLOR HANNA

Councillor Hanna declared an pecuniary interest in Item 11.6 as he has a conflict of interest in this item due to "supply of PPE to the SMRC", as declared in previous meetings.

#### 5.3 COUNCILLOR HIGGINS

Councillor Higgins declared a conflict of interest in Item 11.10 as paying user of Michelago bank of bins.

#### 6. MATTERS DEALT WITH BY EXCEPTION

#### **Items by Exception**

The Mayor requested that councillors nominate any items listed in Corporate Business and Confidential Business that they wished to discuss.

Cr Thaler advised Council that he did not support any matters to be dealt with by Exception.

#### 12. MAYORAL MINUTE

At 2.25 pm Councillor Summers left the meeting.

At 2.26 pm Councillor Summers returned to the meeting.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **MAYORAL MINUTE**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 14/25

#### Recommendation

That Council:

- A. Authorise the CEO to undertake all necessary work to transition Jindabyne Landfill to a Transfer Station thereby preserving a local waste facility service for the wider Jindabyne community.
- B. Note the appointment of a dedicated internal project manager to oversee this essential project in

consultation with the NSW Environment Protection Authority.

- C. Approve the utilisation of \$500,000 from the waste management internal reserves to ensure sufficient funding is available for the implementation of the interim transfer station solution, enabling Council to meet its regulatory obligations and ensuring continuity of service for residents and the local business community.
- D. Approve Council to seek grant opportunities through application to the Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvement Grants program, which closes 28 March 2025.
- E. The Mayor urgently seek a meeting with the Local Member Steve Whan to seek support and funding commitment for a long term solution for the Jindabyne Waste recovery centre.
- F. Direct the CEO to provide monthly reports to Council and the Community from April 2025, enabling Council oversight of matters relating to the progress of the project.
- G. Note that this interim solution will require commercial waste-to-landfill and recycling loads above one cubic metre to be transported to Cooma Landfill by customers.
- H. Seek written advice from the EPA and the advice to be provided to council as soon as possible.
- I. Feedback is sought from regular tip users / operators on potential solutions.

Moved Mayor Hanna CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Summers and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Thaler.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **MOTION TO BRING FORWARD ITEM 11.19**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council change the order of business and bring Item 11.19 forward for consideration now.

Moved Mayor Hanna Seconded Councillor Williamson CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Summers, Councillor Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

### 11.19INTERNAL AND INDEPENDANT AUDIT INTO INVESTIGATIONS RELATED TO THE FORMER IRON ORE MINE ACCESSED FROM 298 MICHALAGO ROAD

Record No: I25/157

Councillor Luke Williamson has given notice that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 20 March 2025,

he will move the following motion.

Cr Davis claimed that Cr Thaler committed an act of disorder. The Chair ruled that an act of disordered had occurred and asked Cr Thaler to apologise and retracted the comments.

Cr Thaler claimed that Cr Davis committed an act of disorder. The Chair ruled that an act of disorder had not occurred by Cr Davis.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **INTO COMMITTEE**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 15/25

That Council move into committee.

Moved Councillor Williamson Seconded Councillor Stewart CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Thaler and

Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Davis and Councillor Summers.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **OUT OF COMMITTEE**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 16/25

That Council move out of committee.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Deputy Mayor Hopkins CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Summers, Councillor Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

At 03:06 pm Councillor Elliott left the meeting.

At 03:09 pm Councillor Elliott returned to the meeting.

At 03.12 pm Councillor Stewart left the meeting.

At 03.16 pm Councillor Stewart returned to the meeting.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **PUT MOTION**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 17/25

That the motion/amendment be put without further debate.

Moved Deputy Mayor Hopkins CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Summers and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Thaler.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 18/25

#### That:

- A. the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee be requested to urgently consider undertaking an independent audit into:
  - a. The quality and completeness of all investigations into complaints made related to dumping or placement of unapproved material(s) on the site of, and in the former iron ore mine, accessed from Michalago Road (at 298 Michalago Road).
  - b. The quality and completeness of the investigation into the pumping of mine water from the on to adjacent land, leading to flows into neighbouring dams and potentially into the local aquifers.
  - c. Whether formal notification to all relevant agencies of the complaints, allegations, scientific analysis results, and/or findings have been made in accordance with lawful obligations. For example, SafeWork NSW, Environment.
  - d. The Internal Auditor will report to Council as soon as possible, but not later than end of May 2025.
  - e. Funding for the audit will be made available from Council's audit budget. If additional funds are needed these will be sourced from the Unrestricted Cash Reserve. If the reserve is insufficient, funds will be allocated from the executive office.
  - f. Council immediately request support from and formally escalate the matter to the NSW EPA and Safework NSW.
- B. To assist ARIC and Council to conduct the audit, Council seek legal advice from a law firm with expertise in environmental and development law on:
  - a. the process undertaken by council to date with managing compliance with the development consent.
  - b. the most appropriate process forward for managing compliance with the development consent.
- C. A report come back for consideration at a council meeting when the advice is available.

D. Funding for part B be provided from the existing compliance legal costs budget.

E. Direct the CEO to appoint new staff to oversee the investigation.

Moved Councillor Williamson Seconded Councillor Thaler CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Summers.

At 04:10 pm Councillor Summers left the meeting.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 19/25

That the Ordinary meeting be adjourned at 4.10pm for a break.

Moved Councillor Thaler Seconded Councillor Davis CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **RESUMPTION OF MEETING**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That the Ordinary Council Meeting be resumed at 4.21pm.

**Moved Mayor Hanna** 

#### 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 7.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 FEBRUARY 2025

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 February 2025 are confirmed as a true and

accurate record of proceedings.

At 04:34 pm Councillor Higgins left the meeting.

#### **MOTION**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 20/25

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 February 2025 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings

That Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting be provided in future printed business papers.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Deputy Mayor Hopkins CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart and Councillor Thaler.

Councillors Against: Councillor Williamson.

#### 7.2 CLOSED SESSION OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 FEBRUARY 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 21/25

That the minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 February 2025 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Councillor Thaler CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Thaler and

Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### 8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION MATTERS

Nil

At 04:35 pm Councillor Higgins returned to the meeting.

#### 9. OTHER REPORTS TO COUNCIL

#### 9.1 OPERATIONS

9.1.1 ROAD RESERVE CLOSURE & DISPOSAL AND LAND ACQUISITION FOR ROAD CORRIDOR ALIGNMENT RELATED TO GRANT FUNDED BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - CAMBALONG BRIDGE

Record No: 125/93

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION 22/25

That Council;

- A. Approve the acquisition of land necessary to create a public road corridor over the constructed section of Cambalong Road, through private land at Lot 2 DP 810693; with acknowledgement that all costs relating to the project will rest with Council.
- B. Approve to close the surplus portion of the existing Council road corridor, within Lot 2 DP 810693, and acknowledge that the land vests as operational land with Council, to then be used in compensation.
- C. Request that Crown Lands transfer Crown Road corridor, within Lot 2 DP 810693, to Council for the purposes of the *Roads Act 1993* (NSW); with Council to then include part in the formal Cambalong Road corridor, as surveyed.
- D. Approve to close the surplus portion of the former Crown Road, within Lot 2 DP 810693, and acknowledge that the land vests as operational land with Council, to then be used in compensation.
- E. Approve transfer of ownership of the relevant closed road reserve sections to the owner of Lot 2 DP 810693 in compensation for the acquired land.
- F. Authorise Council's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to approve the terms for acquisition and deliver compensation to the land owners for the land acquired, in accordance with provisions of the *Roads Act 1993* (NSW) and the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* (NSW).
- G. Authorise the CEO to execute all related documents.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Councillor Thaler CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Thaler and

Councillor Williamson, Cr Higgins

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### 9.1.2 MATONG ROAD NUMBLA CREEK BRIDGE - LAND ACQUISITION

Record No: 124/539

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 23/25

That Council;

- A. Approve to acquire land, being portions of Lot 4 DP 510379 (435.8m²) and Lot 145 DP 756701 (665.1m²), shown as Lots 53 and 54 in the Proposed Plan of Acquisition referenced JAS973, for purposes of road widening, under the *Roads Act 1993* (NSW), according to the provisions of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* (NSW); with acknowledgement that all costs relating to the project will rest with Council.
- B. Classify the land acquired, for purposes of road widening, will be operational land for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*;

- C. Authorise the CEO to approve the payment of compensation and delivery of terms, agreed with the impacted landowners, for acquisition of the relevant land parcels, according to the *Land Acquisition* (*Just Terms Compensation*) *Act 1991* (NSW).
- D. Authorise the CEO to execute all documents necessary to implement the land acquisition and complete this project.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Councillor Thaler CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Thaler and

Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Rose.

#### 9.2 FINANCE

#### 9.2.1 MONTHLY FUNDS MANAGEMENT REPORT - FEBRUARY 2025

Record No: I25/134

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council receive the report indicating Council's cash and investments position as at 28 February 2025; and the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Deputy Mayor Hopkins

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### 9.3 STRATEGY

#### 9.3.1 UPDATE ON FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW ACTIONS

Record No: I25/74

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 24/25

That:

- a. Council note the progress against the recommendations be noted.
- b. Councillors receive a briefing on the Financial Sustainability Review and Towards Excellence program within the next month.

Moved Councillor Thaler Seconded Councillor Davis CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Thaler and Councillor

Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Elliott and Councillor Rose.

#### 9.3.2 ROAD NAME PROPOSAL - DA10.2023.228.1

Record No: 125/84

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 25/25

That Council

A. Endorse the road name Acacia Place to be lodged for pre-approval with the Geographical Names Board

B. Endorse the name Acacia Place for public advertising for 28 days in the Monaro Post

Moved Deputy Mayor Hopkins Seconded Councillor Davis CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### 9.3.3 ROAD NAMING PROPOSAL - NEW SUBDIVISION DA10.2022.307.1

Record No: 125/86

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 26/25

That Council

A. Endorse the road name Carleon Road to be lodged for pre-approval with the Geographical Names Board

B. Endorse the name Carleon Road for public advertising for 28 days in the Monaro Post

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Councillor Thaler CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### 9.3.4 LOCALITY BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT APPROVAL - ANDO-BIBBENLUKE

Record No: I25/87

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 27/25

That Council approve the proposed locality boundary adjustment for Ando and Bibbenluke.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Deputy Mayor Hopkins CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### 9.3.5 DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

Record No: I25/91

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 28/25

That Council note the delivery program progress report.

Moved Councillor Thaler Seconded Councillor Davis CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Nil.

#### **PUT MOTION**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That the motion/amendment be put without further debate.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Deputy Mayor Hopkins

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart and

Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Thaler.

#### 9.3.6 PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ORDER - 1ST REPORT

Record No: I25/165

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council:

A. note the details on the report.

B. withdraw the report sent to the Minister.

C. provide a new report.

D. that the interim CEO be asked to clarify the verbal advice from the Deputy Secretary.

Moved Councillor Thaler Seconded Councillor Williamson LOST

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Elliott, Councillor Rose, Councillor Thaler and Councillor Williamson.
Councillors Against: Councillor Davis, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney and Councillor Stewart.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **PUT MOTION**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 29/25

That the motion/amendment be put without further debate.

Moved Councillor Davis Seconded Deputy Mayor Hopkins CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy

Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor

Summers and Councillor Williamson.

Councillors Against: Councillor Thaler.

#### **MOTION**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 30/25

That Council note the details on the report.

Moved Deputy Mayor Hopkins Seconded Councillor Davis CARRIED

**Record of Voting** 

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins,

Councillor Rooney and Councillor Stewart.

Councillors Against: Councillor Elliott, Councillor Rose, Councillor Thaler and Councillor Williamson.

#### **Procedural Motion**

#### **CLOSE MEETING**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 31/25

That the Ordinary meeting be closed and all matters carried to the next meeting. The meeting closed at 6.18pm.

Moved Mayor Hanna CARRIED

#### **CHAIRPERSON**

The above minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Snowy Monaro Regional Council held on 20 March 2025 were confirmed by Council at a duly convened meeting on 17 April 2025 at which meeting the signature hereon was subscribed.