

# **ORDINARY MEETING**

# **MINUTES**

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**THURSDAY 28TH JULY 2022**

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# WARREN SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council  
held in the Council Community Room, 115 Dubbo Street Warren  
on Thursday 28th July 2022 commencing at 8:30 am

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## Present:

<b>COUNCILLORS</b>	SJ Derrett	Chair
	NR Kinsey	
	RA Jackson	
	AJ Brewer	
	GJ Whiteley	
	HJ Druce	
	DJ McCloskey	
	RJ Higgins	
<b>STAFF MEMBERS</b>	D Arthur	Acting General Manager (AGM)
	S Otieno	Divisional Manager Engineering Services (DMES)
	M Stephens	Manager Health & Development Services (MHD)
	J Burtenshaw	Executive Assistant (EA)

## APOLOGIES

Apologies were tendered on behalf of Councillor MJ Quigley, Councillor KL Walker, Councillor JM Van Eldonk and Councillor KW Taylor who were absent due to external commitments, and it was **MOVED** Druce/McCloskey that the apologies be accepted and a leave of absence for the members concerned be granted.

**Carried**  
**189.7.22**

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## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**MOVED** Jackson/Brewer that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday, 23rd June 2022 be adopted as a true and correct record of that Meeting.

**Carried**  
**190.7.22**

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## DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Kinsey declared a non-pecuniary interest in regard to Item 1 of the Manager Health and Development Services Reports and advised that he would remain in the meeting room.

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## MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

Nil.

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**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**Manex** (C14-3.4)

**MOVED** Whiteley/Brewer that the Minutes of the Manex Meeting held on Tuesday, 19th July 2022 be received and noted.

**Carried**  
**191.7.22**

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**DELEGATES REPORTS**

Nil.

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**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS**

**Item 1 Outstanding Reports Checklist** (C14-7.4)

EA - N **MOVED** Jackson/Druce that the information be received and noted and that the items marked with an asterisk (\*) be deleted.

**Carried**  
**192.7.22**

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In recognition of Warren being a healthy town and to keep awareness of a healthy lifestyle, Council will be standing while dealing with Item 2 of the General Manager's report.

**Item 2 Committee/Delegates Meetings** (C14-2)

**MOVED** Kinsey/Jackson that the information be received and noted.

**Carried**  
**193.7.22**

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**Item 3 Works Progress Reports – Infrastructure Projects** (C14-7.1, G4-1)

**MOVED** Druce/Whiteley that the information be received and noted.

**Carried**  
**194.7.22**

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**Item 4 Local Government NSW Annual Conference** (S6-4)

**MOVED** Kinsey/Brewer that:

GM – A  
Chk Lst

1. The information be received and noted;
2. Council approve the attendance of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and one (1) Councillor to the LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference to be held on Sunday 23rd October 2022 to Tuesday 25th October 2022 and register for the Early Bird Discount;
3. Council defer nominating a Councillor until the Conference Agenda and guest speakers are known; and
4. Council nominate the Mayor as the voting delegate for the LGNSW Annual Conference.

**Carried**  
**195.7.22**

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**DIVISIONAL MANAGER FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION'S REPORTS**

**Item 1 Reconciliation Certificate – June 2022 (B1-10.16)**

**MOVED** Druce/McCloskey that the Statements of Bank and Investments Balances as at 30th June 2022 be received and noted.

**Carried  
196.7.22**

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**Item 2 Statement of Rates and Annual Charges (R1-4)**

**MOVED** Brewer/Jackson that the information be received and noted.

**Carried  
197.7.22**

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**Item 3 Works Progress Reports – Finance & Administration Projects (S1-1.15, C9-1)**

**MOVED** Whiteley/Jackson that the information be received and noted.

**Carried  
198.7.22**

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**Item 4 Librarian's Report on the Warren Shire Library Operations (L2-2)**

**MOVED** Jackson/Kinsey that the information be received and noted.

**Carried  
199.7.22**

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**Item 5 Accounting Treatment of Rural Fire Service ("Red Fleet") Assets (B7-1.1)**

**MOVED** Whiteley/Kinsey that:

1. Council writes to local State Members, the Hon Roy Butler MP Member for Barwon, the Hon Dugald Saunders MP Member for Dubbo, the Hon Matt Kean MP Treasurer, the Hon Stephanie Cook MP Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience and the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP Minister for Local Government:
  - a. Expressing Council's objection to the NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service assets;
  - b. Advising of the impact of the Government's position on Council finances of this accounting treatment;
  - c. Informing that Council will not carry out RFS assets stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets in Warren Shire Council's financial statements;
  - d. Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies around the accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the RFS; and
  - e. Amending s119 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils.

DMFA - A  
Chk Lst

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## DIVISIONAL MANAGER FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION'S REPORTS

CONTINUED

### Item 5 Accounting Treatment of Rural Fire Service ("Red Fleet") Assets Continued

2. Council writes to the Shadow Treasurer Daniel Mookhey MLC, the Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib MP, the Shadow Minister for Local Government Greg Warren MP, the Greens Spokesperson for Local Government Jamie Parker MP and the leaders of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers, Animal Justice and One Nation parties Robert Borsak MLC, Emma Hurst MLC and Mark Latham MLC:
  - a. Advising Members of Warren Shire Council's position, including providing copies of correspondence to NSW Government Ministers; and
  - b. Seeking Members' commitments to support NSW Councils' call to amend the *Rural Fires Act 1997* as set out in correspondence.
3. Council writes to the Auditor General advising that notwithstanding any overtures of future qualified audits, it will not carry out RFS stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets in Warren Shire Council's financial statements, noting that the State Government's own Local Government Accounting Code of Practice and Financial Reporting provides for councils to determine whether or not they record the RFS assets as council assets.
4. Council promotes these messages via its digital and social media channels and via its networks.
5. Council re-affirms its complete support of and commitment to local RFS brigades noting that Warren Shire Council's action is entirely directed towards the NSW Government's nonsensical position that rather than being owned and controlled by local brigades, RFS assets are somehow controlled by councils, which councils consider to be a cynical financial sleight of hand abdicating the NSW Government's responsibilities at the cost of local communities.
6. That Council affirms its support to Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and requests LGNSW continue advocating on Council's behalf to get clarification finally from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.

Carried  
200.7.22

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## DIVISIONAL MANAGER ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORTS

### Item 1 Works Progress Reports - Roads (C14-7.2)

MOVED Whiteley/Jackson that the information be received and noted.

Carried  
201.7.22

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### Item 2 Works Progress Reports – Town Services (C14-7.2)

MOVED Jackson/Druce that the information be received and noted.

Carried  
202.7.22

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**DIVISIONAL MANAGER ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORTS**

**CONTINUED**

**Item 3 Works Progress Reports – Fleet/Workshop (C14-7.2)**

**MOVED** Kinsey/Brewer that the information be received and noted.

**Carried  
203.7.22**

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**MANAGER HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORTS**

Councillor Kinsey has declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and will be remaining in the meeting room.

**Item 1 Development Application Approvals (D4-9)**

**MOVED** Brewer/Druce that the information be received and noted.

**Carried  
204.7.22**

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**Item 2 Works Progress Reports – Health and Development Services (C14-7.3)**

**MOVED** Whiteley/Jackson that the information be received and noted.

**Carried  
205.7.22**

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**Item 3 Request for Donation of Heritage Items from the Visitors Information Centre to the Warren Museum and Gallery Association Incorporated (T4-6.1)**

MHD - A  
Chk Lst

**MOVED** Kinsey/Jackson that the item be deferred to seek further information from the Warren Museum and Gallery Association Incorporated on loaning the items not donating.

**Carried  
206.7.22**

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**Item 4 Changes to Garbage Collection Days – Community Consultation Plan (C13-71, G2-1))**

**MOVED** Jackson/Druce that the information be received and noted, remove the word consultation and replace with engagement.

**Carried  
207.7.22**

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**MATTERS OF URGENCY**

Nil.

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.48 pm.

**THESE MINUTES WILL BE CONFIRMED AT THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 25TH AUGUST 2022 AS BEING  
A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.**

**MINUTE NO.        .08.22**

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**GENERAL MANAGER**

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**MAYOR**