

*Glen Innes Severn Ordinary Council Meeting*

**16 MAY 2024**

# **Minutes**



# GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

## MINUTES

From the meeting held at the Glen Innes Severn Learning Centre,  
William Gardner Conference Room, Grey Street, Glen Innes on:  
Thursday, 16 May 2024 at 9:00 AM

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### Table of Contents

1	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY .....	3
2	APOLOGIES .....	3
3	DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS: PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS.....	3
4	REPORTS TO COUNCIL .....	3
4.1	<i>Endorsement of the Draft Operational Plan and Budget for the 2024/2025 Financial Year, for Public Exhibition</i> .....	3
	<b>1.05/24 RESOLUTION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
4.2	<i>New England Rail Trail Update</i> .....	4
	<b>2.05/24 RESOLUTION</b> .....	<b>6</b>
5	CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS .....	6

## **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (Commenced at 08:44am)**

- Steve Pearce Spoke against Item 4.2 New England Rail Trail Update
  - David Donnelly Spoke against Item 4.2 New England Rail Trail Update
  - Nigel Brown Spoke regarding Item 4.2 New England Rail Trail Update
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**PRESENT:** Cr Rob Banham(Mayor), Cr Troy Arandale (Deputy Mayor), Cr Tim Alt, Cr Jack Parry, Cr Andrew Parsons and Cr Carol Sparks

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr Bernard Smith (General Manager), Mr Keith Appleby (Director of Infrastructure Services), Mrs Gayleen Burley (Director of Place and Growth), Ms Fiona Plesman (Director of Corporate and Community Services), Mr Shageer Mohammed (Chief Financial Officer) Mr Dennis McIntyre (Manager of Governance) and Mr Gregory Ford (Executive Assistant to the Director of Corporate and Community Services)

**OPENED:** 09:01am.

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The Mayor read the following statement regarding video and audio recording of the Council Meeting:

"This Council Meeting is being streamed live, recorded and published in accordance with Council's Live Streaming of Council Meetings Policy. No other persons are permitted to record the Meeting, unless specifically authorised by Council to do so.

To those present in the gallery today, by attending a public meeting of the Council you are consenting to your image, voice and comments being recorded and published.

Anyone who is invited to speak during the meeting will be recorded and their voice, image and comments will form part of the live stream and recording.

All speakers are requested to ensure their comments are relevant to the issue at hand and to refrain from making personal comments or criticisms.

The Chair and/or the General Manager have the discretion and authority at any time to direct the termination or interruption of live streaming. Such direction will only be given in exceptional circumstances where deemed relevant. Circumstances may include instances where the content of debate is considered misleading, defamatory or potentially inappropriate to be published.

Attendees are advised that they may be subject to legal action if their actions result in inappropriate and/or unacceptable behaviour and/or comments.

Thank you."

The Mayor read the following statement of ethical obligations:

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“Councillors are reminded that they remain bound by the Oath/Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the Glen Innes Severn Local Government Area and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement.

Councillors are also reminded of the requirement for disclosure of conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.”

## **1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY**

The Mayor read the following “Acknowledgement to Country”:

“I acknowledge the Ngarabal people as the traditional custodians of this land and pay my respect to the Elders past, present and emerging. I also extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people here today.”

## **2 APOLOGIES**

No apologies were given as all Councillors were in attendance.

## **3 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS: PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

No disclosures were made.

## **4 REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

### **4.1 Endorsement of the Draft Operational Plan and Budget for the 2024/2025 Financial Year, for Public Exhibition**

**REPORT FROM:** CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
**Author:** Shageer Mohammed - Chief Financial Officer

Moved Cr C Sparks                      Seconded Cr J Parry

#### **1.05/24 RESOLUTION**

**THAT:**

- 1. Council endorses the Draft Operational Plan and Budget for the 2024/2025 Financial Year and thereby endorses the expenditure amounts set out in the Draft Operational Plan and Budget for the 2024/2025 Financial Year, which is contained in Annexure A, under separate cover to the Business Paper, for public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993, for 28 days from Friday, 17 May 2024 until Thursday, 13 June 2024.**

2. Council endorses the Draft Rating and Revenue Policy Statement for the 2024/2025 Financial Year which is contained in Annexure A, under separate cover to the Business Paper, for public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993, for 28 days from Friday, 17 May 2024 until Thursday, 13 June 2024.
3. The Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2024/2025 Financial Year be endorsed by Council for public exhibition as part of the Council's Operational Plan and Budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 for 28 days from Friday, 17 May 2024 until Thursday, 13 June 2024.
4. Council advertises the Draft Operational Plan and Budget for the 2024/2025 Financial Year in the Glen Innes Examiner (Our Council), on the Glen Innes Severn Council website under Public Notices, and on Council's Facebook page, and displays the relevant documents at the Emmaville Post Office, Deepwater Post Office, and Glencoe Post Office.

**CARRIED**

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For	Against
Cr R Banham	Nil
Cr T Arandale	
Cr T Alt	
Cr J Parry	
Cr A Parsons	
Cr C Sparks	

The division was declared CARRIED by 6 votes to 0.

## 4.2 New England Rail Trail Update

**REPORT FROM: INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

**Author: Keith Appleby - Director of Infrastructure Services**

Moved Cr T Arandale      Seconded Cr C Sparks

THAT Council:

1. Makes application to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to amend the scope of the New England Rail Trail to include only the section between Glen Innes and Glencoe.
2. Reaffirms its request of the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to execute the funding deed at the earliest opportunity, with an initial stage available to fund the works required to obtain approval.

3. Authorises the General Manager to enter into a funding deed to construct the New England Rail Trail between Glen Innes and Glencoe,
4. Authorises the expenditure of \$170,000 from Council's general fund to commence survey, design and environmental assessment of the New England Rail Trail, noting that this may not be able to be reimbursed from the offered funding.

Amendment to the Motion:

Moved Cr J Parry

Seconded Cr T Alt

THAT Council:

1. Makes application to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to amend the scope of the New England Rail Trail to include only the section between Glen Innes and Glencoe.
2. Reaffirms its request of the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to execute the funding deed at the earliest opportunity, with an initial stage available to fund the works required to obtain approval.
3. Authorises the General Manager to enter into a funding deed to construct the New England Rail Trail between Glen Innes and Glencoe,
4. Authorises the expenditure of \$170,000 from Council's general fund to commence survey, design and environmental assessment of the New England Rail Trail, noting that this may not be able to be reimbursed from the offered funding.
5. That prior to any physical Rail Trail construction occurs:
  - a) A project Cost / Benefit analysis be carried out by an independent provider.
  - b) That all stakeholders be consulted.
  - c) That a comprehensive project risk assessment be carried out.
  - d) That the alternative options for the trail be fully investigated.
  - e) A detailed current project budget is prepared together with an annual operating budget and be made public to demonstrate Councils transparency and good governance.

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For

Cr R Banham  
Cr T Alt  
Cr J Parry  
Cr A Parsons

Against

Cr T Arandale  
Cr C Sparks

The division was declared CARRIED by 4 votes to 2.  
The Amendment became the Motion.

Moved Cr J Parry

Seconded Cr T Alt

## 2.05/24 RESOLUTION

THAT Council:

1. Makes application to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to amend the scope of the New England Rail Trail to include only the section between Glen Innes and Glencoe.
2. Reaffirms its request of the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to execute the funding deed at the earliest opportunity, with an initial stage available to fund the works required to obtain approval.
3. Authorises the General Manager to enter into a funding deed to construct the New England Rail Trail between Glen Innes and Glencoe,
4. Authorises the expenditure of \$170,000 from Council's general fund to commence survey, design and environmental assessment of the New England Rail Trail, noting that this may not be able to be reimbursed from the offered funding.
5. That prior to any physical Rail Trail construction occurs:
  - a) A project Cost / Benefit analysis be carried out by an independent provider.
  - b) That all stakeholders be consulted.
  - c) That a comprehensive project risk assessment be carried out.
  - d) That the alternative options for the trail be fully investigated.
  - e) A detailed current project budget is prepared together with an annual operating budget and be made public to demonstrate Councils transparency and good governance.

### CARRIED

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For

Cr R Banham  
Cr T Arandale  
Cr C Sparks

Against

Cr T Alt  
Cr J Parry  
Cr A Parsons

The voting was 3 votes for the motion and 3 votes against the motion.

The Mayor used his casting vote in favour of the motion.

The division was declared CARRIED

## 5 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS

There were no closed council reports received.

The Meeting closed at 09:19am.

MINUTES