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# Rous County Council

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

19 August 2020

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### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

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Meeting commenced at 1.06pm.

In attendance:

Councillors (at Molesworth Street, Administration Office, Lismore, NSW)

Keith Williams (Chair), Sharon Cadwallader (Deputy Chair), Darlene Cook and Vanessa Ekins.

Councillors (via video conferencing)

Basil Cameron, Simon Richardson and Robert Mustow (from 1.55pm).

Staff (at Molesworth Street, Administration Office, Lismore, NSW)

Phillip Rudd (General Manager), Guy Bezrouchko (Group Manager Corporate and Commercial), Andrew Logan (Planning Manager) and Noeline Smith (minute taker).

Staff (via video conferencing)

Helen McNeil (Group Manager People and Performance), Natalie Woodhead-Tiernan (Finance Manager) and Chrisy Clay (Floodplain Engagement Officer).

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### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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*Council showed its respect and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land, of all Elders, on which this meeting took place.*

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### 3. PUBLIC ACCESS

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Nil.

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### 4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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Notice of condolence

Council acknowledged the passing of Charlie Cox, paying tribute to his devoted service as a former Councillor on Richmond River County Council, and extended condolences to Mrs Cox and family.

Apologies

It was noted Councillors Mustow and Humphrys attended Mr Cox's funeral. Cr Mustow joined the meeting at 1.55pm, Cr Humphrys was an apology.

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### 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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i). **Ordinary Council meeting 17 June 2020** (182)

**RESOLVED [34/30]** (Cook/Cadwallader) that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held 17 June 2020 be confirmed as presented.

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**ii). Extra-Ordinary Council meeting 7 August 2020**

**RESOLVED [35/20]** (Cadwallader/Cook) that the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held 7 August 2020 be confirmed as presented.

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**6. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

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Nil.

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**7. GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS**

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**i). Delivery program progress update: 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020**

**RESOLVED [36/20]** (Cadwallader/Cameron) that Council receive and note the report and attachment regarding performance against delivery of the actions for Year 3 of the combined Delivery program/Operational plan for the period 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020.

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**8. GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL REPORTS**

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**i). Retail water customer account assistance**

**RESOLVED [37/20]** (Cadwallader/Cook) that Council in accordance with section 356 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and its 'Retail Water Customer Account Assistance' policy, approve financial assistance as listed in Table 1 of the report.

*Cr Mustow joined the meeting at 1.55pm.*

**ii). Preliminary 2019/20 End of Year financial summary**

**RESOLVED [38/20]** (Cadwallader/Cameron) that Council:

1. Receive and note the Preliminary 2019/20 End of Year Financial summary report, acknowledging that it is a preliminary summary prior to end of year adjustments and audit.
2. Approve the transfers to and from reserve as detailed in Tables 2 - 8 of the report.
3. Approve the funds to be carried forward as detailed in Tables 9 and 10 of the report.

*Cr Richardson left the meeting at 2.30pm.*

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**9. GROUP MANAGER PLANNING REPORTS**

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**i). Release of easements for water pipeline – Skinner Shoot Road, Skinners Shoot**

**RESOLVED [39/20]** (Ekins/Cook) that Council:

1. Grant approval, for completion under seal, of all documents required in relation to the release of an easement for water pipeline supply 5.03 wide over Lot 13 in DP615522 located at Skinners Shoot, with the associated costs to be borne by the landowner.
2. Delegate authority to the General Manager, to release existing easements associated with the decommissioned Byron 150mm diameter pipeline, for all future landholder requests.

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ii). **Rous County Council Asset Management Strategy 2020-2024**

**RESOLVED [40/20]** (Cameron/Cadwallader) Council adopt the Rous County Council *Asset Management Strategy 2020-2024*.

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**10. GROUP MANAGER PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS**

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i). **Re-endorsement of landowner volunteer floodgate operator program**

**RESOLVED [41/20]** (Cadwallader/Cameron) that Council re-endorses the activities of the landowner volunteer floodgate operator program as a committee of Council.

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**11. INFORMATION REPORTS**

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i). **Information reports** (1181)

**RESOLVED [43/20]** (Cook/Cadwallader) that Council receive and note the following information reports:

1. Investments – July 2020
2. Water production and usage – June 2020 and July 2020
3. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee: meeting update (*report dealt with separately*)
4. Fluoride plants' dosing performance report April to June 2020 – Q2
5. Reports/actions pending.

**RESOLVED [44/20]** (Cook/Mustow) that 'Information Report' - Item 3. *Audit Risk and Improvement Committee: meeting update*, be dealt with separately.

*Note: Technical difficulties were experienced at 3.06pm. Lost contact with "Zoom" participants. Back on-line at 3.13pm.*

ii). **Audit Risk and Improvement Committee: meeting update**

**RESOLVED [45/20]** (Cook/Cadwallader) that Council:

1. Receive and note the attached minutes from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting of 27 July 2020.
2. Note the deferral of local government elections until 4 September 2021 due to COVID-19 and extend the appointment of the Councillor members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for a further 12 months (being Councillor Cook - primary member) and Councillor Cameron (alternate member).

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**12. MATTERS OF URGENCY**

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Nil.

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**13. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

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Nil.

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**14. CLOSE OF BUSINESS**

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.24pm.