



## MINUTES

### Budget, Review and Finance Committee Meeting

9:30am 15 March 2022 Council Chambers

**Councillors:**

Mayor Robert Bell (Chair)  
Cr R Crouch (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr T Bower  
Cr S Burrows  
Cr L Doran  
Cr O'Connor  
Cr L Petrov  
Cr T Toomey (departed 2.25 pm)

**Apologies:**

Cr B McMullen

**Staff:**

Ms K Jessep, General Manager  
Mr S Paul, Chief Financial Officer/ Director Corporate Services  
Mr T Seymour, Director Infrastructure & Development  
Ms C Valencius, Director Community Services  
Ms N Heaton, Manager Governance (item 9.1 only)  
Ms W Westbrook, Executive Assistant (Minutes Clerk, item 9.1 only –  
FM/CFO took responsibility for the minutes for the remainder of the  
meeting)

UINT/22/3311

MINUTES

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## **1 OPENING & WELCOME**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9:34am

## **2 PRAYER**

*The Chair read the prayer.*

## **3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*The Chair acknowledged Country and Elders past and present.*

## **4 WEBCAST INFORMATION**

*The Chair advised that the meeting is audio recorded and the recording is made available on Council's website after the meeting.*

## **5 APOLOGIES, REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND OBSERVERS**

5.1 *The chair noted apologies from Cr McMullen.*

**MOTION Moved: Cr O'Connor / Seconded Cr Toomey**

**That Councillor McMullen's apologies be accepted.**

**For:** Mayor Bell, Crs Bower, Burrows, Crouch, Doran, O'Connor, Petrov, Toomey

**Against:** Nil

**Absent:** Nil

**BRFC01.03/22 CARRIED**

## **6 DISCLOSURE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

*There were no disclosure or declarations made.*

## **7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

7.1 Minutes from the 14 September 2021 Budget Review & Finance Committee Meeting.

**MOTION Moved: Cr Crouch / Seconded O'Connor**

**That Council adopt the minutes the Budget, Review and Finance Committee meeting held 14 September 2021 as a true and correct record.**

**For:** Mayor Bell, Crs Bower, Burrows, Crouch, Doran, O'Connor, Petrov, Toomey

**Against:** Nil

**Absent:** Nil

**BRFC02.03/22 CARRIED**

## **8 URGENT, SUPPLEMENTARY AND LATE ITEM/S OF BUSINESS**

Nil.

## 9 REPORTS

### 9.1 Terms of Reference for Finance Advisory Committee and Working Groups

**MOTION Moved: Cr Crouch / Seconded : Cr O'Connor**

**That the Budget Review and Finance Committee recommend to Council that:**

- I. The Budget Review and Finance Committee be dissolved subject to the commencement of the Finance Advisory Committee; and
- II. That the Finance Advisory Committee be constituted with the following amendments:
  - a. 4.1.5 insert after review 'budget related'
  - b. Delete section 9; and
- III. The Development Working Group with the following amendments:
  - a. Insert between 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 a new paragraph 'to oversight a fair, equitable, transparent and consistent approvals process'
- IV. That the Terms of Reference for the Finance Advisory Committee, the Development Working Group and the Capital Works Working Group as amended be placed on public exhibition for 28 days; and
- V. If no submissions are received, that the Terms of Reference for the Finance Advisory Committee, the Development Working Group and the Capital Works Working Group be adopted.

**For: Mayor Bell, Crs Bower, Burrows, Crouch, Doran, O'Connor, Petrov, Toomey**

**Against: Nil**

**Absent: Nil**

**BRFC03.03/22 CARRIED**

### 9.2 Draft Budget v1 2022-23

#### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Moved: Cr Crouch / Seconded: Cr Burrows**

**That Council move into closed session and close the meeting to members of the public and press for the following reasons:-**

**The matters referred to the Closed Session of the 15 March 2022 meeting under section 10A (1) (a), 2) (a) (c) (i) of the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993.**

**Reason: to enable discussion about budget allocation attached to staff employment and potential contracts.**

**BRFC04.03/21 CARRIED**

The Mayor called a 20 minute adjournment at 10.55am

The Mayor resumed the meeting at 11.15am

Cr Doran declared a non-pecuniary interest for the discussion on community grants in relation to Thunderbolts Festival and the Rotary Art Show as an organiser/member and left the room at 11.29am

Cr Toomey declared a non-pecuniary interest for the discussion on community grants in relation to the Rotary Art Show and Lantern Festival as a supporter of these two events and left the room at 11.40am

Cr Doran returned to the chamber at 11.49am

Cr Toomey returned to the chamber at 11.50am

The Mayor adjourned the meeting for a 30 minute break at 12.47pm

The Mayor resumed the meeting at 1.19pm

Cr Toomey left the meeting at 2.25pm

**MOTION Moved: Cr O'Connor / Seconded Cr Bower**

- I. That a report be provided to Council to consider submission of an application for the Additional Special Rate Variation, permanent, of 2.5% as per Council's Long Term Financial Plan 2021 per OLG Circular 22-03.**
- II. That the Budget Review and Finance Committee request version 2 of the draft 2022-23 budget include the following adjustments:**
  - a. Reduce the Water and Sewer Funds fees and charges to a 5% increase.**
  - b. Retain the budget allocations for the following community groups or events included in the draft budget version 1:**
    - i. Australia Day Activities \$2,500**
    - ii. Street Stall \$7,100 plus overheads**
    - iii. Youth Services, and NAIDOC \$6,600**
    - iv. S355 Bundarra School of the Arts Hall \$250**
    - v. School presentations \$800**
    - vi. NIAS \$2,000**
    - vii. Bush Bursary \$3,000**
    - viii. Arts North West \$4,758**
  - c. Add budget allocations for the following community groups or events:**
    - i. Thunderbolts Festival \$12,000 subject to the Committee engaging a local grant application writer to endeavour to seek suitable alternate funding.**
    - ii. Rotary Art Show \$2,000 and advise Rotary that the intention of Council is to reduce this to \$1,000 in 2024 and zero in 2025.**
    - iii. Lanterns Festival \$3,000.**
    - iv. Noting the existence of community based grant funding programs from the New England Regional Energy Zone, Community grants fund at \$3,000 for small grants and donations on application (in lieu of the 'community grant program' and 'other Uralla events' budget).**
    - v. Pre-school rent \$20,616.**
  - d. Amend the budget as follows:**
    - i. Add: Development and planning local environmental plan review and amendments \$25,000**
    - ii. Reduce: Organisation Service Review consultancy support to \$23,000**
    - iii. Add: Council volunteer appreciation civic reception \$1,000**

- iv. Add: Council meeting alternative location – Council meeting at Bundarra \$3,750
- e. The following areas be reviewed:
  - i. Swimming pool income
  - ii. Forecast interest income
  - iii. Training and seminars expense
  - iv. Licences expense
  - v. Private works forecast income and overhead costs
  - vi. Waste services – particularly leachate management, green waste management and insourcing/outsourcing waste collection.

For: Mayor Bell, Crs Bower, Burrows, Crouch, Doran, O'Connor, Petrov,  
Against: Nil  
Absent: Cr Toomey

BRFC05.03/22 CARRIED

#### MOVE TO OPEN SESSION

#### PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved Cr Bower/ Seconded Cr Crouch

That Council return to OPEN Session of Council.

For: Mayor Bell, Crs Bower, Burrows, Crouch, Doran, O'Connor, Petrov,  
Against: Nil  
Absent: Cr Toomey

BRFC06.03/22 CARRIED

#### COMMUNICATION OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

#### PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved Cr O'Connor/Seconded Cr Burrows

That the resolutions made in CLOSED Session of the Committee become the resolutions of the OPEN Session of the Committee.

For: Mayor Bell, Crs Bower, Burrows, Crouch, Doran, O'Connor, Petrov,  
Against: Nil  
Absent: Cr Toomey

BRFC07.03/22 CARRIED

## 10 NEXT MEETING

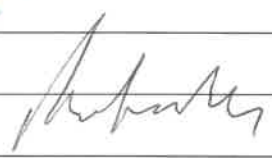
Dates for the next Budget Review and Finance Committee (subject to change with the agreement of the Mayor and General Manager) are:

- 12 April 2022 at 9.30am
- 14 June 2022 at 9.30am

## 11 MEETING CLOSED

The Committee Meeting closed at 2.30pm.

## 12 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COUNCIL MINUTES CONFIRMED BY:	
RESOLUTION NUMBER:	07.03/22
DATE:	22 March 2022
MAYOR	Robert Bell 
Presented to Council	22 March 2022 Ordinary Meeting

