



# MINUTES of

## FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on 18 April 2023 at 4pm

### Attendance at Meeting:

**Councillors:** Deputy Mayor R Crouch (Chair)  
Cr T Bower  
Cr McMullen  
Cr T O'Connor  
Cr L Petrov  
Cr T Toomey

**Apologies:** Mayor R Bell  
Cr L Doran  
Cr S Burrows

**Staff:** Ms K Jessep, General Manager  
Ms C Valencius, Executive Director Corporate & Community  
Ms T Averay, Executive Director Infrastructure & Development  
Mr M Raby, Interim Executive Director Infrastructure  
Ms L Chalmers, Executive Support Office (Minute Clerk)  
Ms W Westbrook, Executive Assistant  
Mr M Ahammed, Manager Finance & IT

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## 1 OPENING & WELCOME

The Chair declared the meeting opened at 4.02pm

## 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair read the acknowledgement of country.

## 3 WEBCAST INFORMATION

The Chair advised the meeting was recorded, with the recording to be made available on Council's website following the meeting.

## 4 APOLOGIES & APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 03.04/23

Moved: Cr Tara Toomey

Seconded: Cr Lone Petrov

That the apologies be received and accepted from Mayor Bell, Cr Burrows and Cr Doran.

For: Crs Tim Bower, Robert Crouch, Bruce McMullen, Tom O'Connor, Lone Petrov and Tara Toomey

Against: Nil

Absent: Crs Robert Bell, Sarah Burrows and Leanne Doran

CARRIED 6/0

## 5 DISCLOSURE & DECLARATION OF INTEREST/S

Nil

## 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*The minutes of the Finance Advisory Committee Meeting held on 21 March 2023 were adopted as a true and accurate record at the 28 March 2023 Ordinary Meeting.*

## 7 TABLING OF PETITONS

Nil

## 8 LATE REPORT/S

### MOTION

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 04.04/23

Moved: Cr Tom O'Connor

Seconded: Cr Tim Bower

That the late report updated rate model scenario summary be received and be considered as part of item 9.1.

For: Crs Tim Bower, Robert Crouch, Bruce McMullen, Tom O'Connor, Lone Petrov and Tara Toomey

Against: Nil

Absent: Crs Robert Bell, Sarah Burrows and Leanne Doran

CARRIED 6/0

## 9 REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

### 9.1 RATE MODELLING

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 05.04/23

Moved: Cr Tom O'Connor

Seconded: Cr Bruce McMullen

1. Receive a presentation from AEC Group on their rate modelling options for Council, noting that the Regional Economic Factors Report does not include consideration of the current rating model of Council, i.e. the current valuation at a common rate in the dollar, as none of the scenarios examine the maintenance of a common rate in the dollar, and presents population forecasts that have long been disputed by regional councils in New South Wales. The outcomes available from the consideration of Rating Effort (Part 1.4) requires a greater sophistication of rating categories than available from the basic Farmland, Rural Residential, Residential and Business categories currently applied.
2. Workshop the various options available to Council namely Option 1 new valuation at a common rate in the dollar and a base rate raising no more than 50% in any rating category and Options 2 to 6 being Scenarios One to Six in the Rate Modelling Scenarios Summary late report of AEC's Regional Economic Factors Report.
3. Recommend to Council that:
  - i. option 1, the new valuation at a common rate in the dollar and a base rate raising no more than 50% in any rating category (Late Report Scenario Six), with the amendment of the Base Rate being \$282.80 in place of \$282.00, be included in the draft resourcing strategy; and
  - ii. reviews of the rate modelling options be undertaken in two years, in preparation for the three yearly revaluations, as a matter of course. Particularly to enable consideration of any positive response by the State Government to the effect of

development of renewable energy zone business across New South Wales in general and the Uralla Shire in particular.

**For:** Crs Tim Bower, Robert Crouch, Bruce McMullen, Tom O'Connor, Lone Petrov and Tara Toomey

**Against:** Nil

**Absent:** Crs Robert Bell, Sarah Burrows and Leanne Doran

CARRIED 6/0

## 10 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 5:32.

Minutes Financial Advisory Committee Meeting confirmed by Mayor Robert Bell at the Ordinary meeting 23 May 2023