



**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
BUSINESS PAPER**

**04 February 2020**

**Extraordinary Meeting of Council**

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OF COUNCIL**

04 February 2020



## **Extraordinary Council Meeting**

**04 February 2020 at 6:00pm**

**Uralla Shire Council Chambers**

### **- BUSINESS AGENDA -**

- 1. OPENING OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**
- 2. PRAYER**
- 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 4. APOLOGIES**
- 5. DISCLOSURES & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 6. PURPOSE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**
  1. Notice of Motion 1 - Councillor briefing on Uralla water supply
  2. Notice of Motion 2 - Economic Reparations to Impacted Businesses
  3. Notice of Motion 3 - Proactive Marketing to Recover Brand Damage
  4. Notice of Motion 4 - Appointment of Interim General Manager
  5. Notice of Motion 5 - General Manager Remuneration
- 7. CLOSE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

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## NOTICE OF MOTION

<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Cr Bob Crouch</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion 1 - Councillor briefing on Uralla water supply

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

<b>Objective:</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>A strong, accountable and representative Council</b>
<b>Strategy:</b>	<b>4.1.3</b>	<b>Provide open, accountable and transparent decision making for the community</b>
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>4.1.3.1</b>	<b>Implement and maintain a transparent and accountable decision making framework</b>

### COUNCILLOR'S MOTION:

*That at the February Ordinary Council Meeting, Council be provided with a detailed report on actions taken to address the elevated levels of arsenic, along with the short and long term supply issues, including budget implications impacting on Uralla's water supply.*

### BACKGROUND:

Whilst recognising addressing the elevated levels of arsenic in Uralla's water supply along with managing the short and long term supply issues has been a difficult and rapidly moving exercise, councillors are not in a position to respond to the community particularly in terms of budgetary implications. There is need for a detailed briefing to bring all councillors up to date with progress and projections, including costs.

### OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION:


The solution for the treatment of the arsenic in the Kentucky Creek Dam is still under development. The supply installation of operational costs are yet to be identified. A brief report on the status of the necessary works and possible costs can be prepared for Council's ordinary meeting of Council in February.

It is recommended that Council present a brief report on the arsenic in the Uralla Town Water Supply at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2020.

  
Councillor Bob Crouch

### Supporting Councillors:

NAME OF COUNCILLOR: Tara Tooney

SIGNED: 

04 February 2020



## NOTICE OF MOTION

<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Cr Tara Toomey</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion 2 - Economic Reparations to Impacted Businesses

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

<b>Objective:</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>A strong, accountable and representative Council</b>
<b>Strategy:</b>	<b>4.1.3</b>	<b>Provide open, accountable and transparent decision making for the community</b>
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>4.1.3.1</b>	<b>Implement and maintain a transparent and accountable decision making framework</b>

### COUNCILLOR'S MOTION:

*That the General Manager :*

- 1. contact each food or beverage business in the Uralla Shire reliant on town water*
- 2. understand what the additional costs that transitioning to a new water source for their business have been*
- 3. for food and beverage businesses who have not made the transition due to the cost, understand what the costs are*
- 4. provide a report to Council at the February meeting*
- 5. continue to acknowledge and publicly thank those volunteers who have stepped in from the start and who continue to step in, to distribute the water and care for our community during this time*

### BACKGROUND:

*The aim of this motion is to ensure that Uralla Shire businesses are not left out of pocket by the burden of transitioning at such short notice at a peak trading time, to the alternate source of water so that they could continue trading. The food and beverage businesses in Uralla are a critical partner for our retailers and their proactive approach to ensuring they could still trade was key. They are to be applauded for their swift solution finding and should not be financially prejudiced by the circumstances they found themselves in.*

*Considering the difficult conditions everyone in our community is finding themselves in at the moment, with bushfires and drought as well, it is imperative that Council seek to ensure that businesses are not out of pocket at this juncture.*

*The Advice from Council left NO CHOICE for businesses who wished to keep trading, but to make changes within their business at short notice and, I am aware, at some considerable cost. It is appropriate that Council support them in having these costs reimbursed, either from Council funds or by application to the State and Federal governments.*

*Uralla Shire Council Press Release on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 :*

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Bottled water should be used for drinking, food preparation, making ice, cleaning teeth, and gargling. Uralla town water is still safe to use for hand washing, showering, bathing, and dish washing, and washing clothes. It is also safe to give to pets and stock. Boiling water will not make it safe to drink.

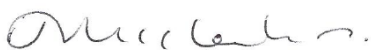
*This advice is current and clearly makes it a requirement for businesses to make and sustain alternate arrangements for providing food and beverages for their customers.*

*The businesses and volunteers involved in distributing the water must also be acknowledged and thanked for their extraordinary efforts at what was already a very busy time leading in to Xmas.*

**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

1. Contact all food and beverage businesses operating in the Uralla Shire who are reliant on water supplied by Uralla Shire Council and that sell directly to the public to:
  - a. Determine any costs that they incurred as a consequence of using bottled water that they may not otherwise have incurred;
  - b. Determine any costs that they would have incurred as a consequence of using bottled water but chose not to incur;
  - c. Enable a report to be presented to the 24 March 2020 Council meeting summarising the findings from a) and b) above.
2. Continue to acknowledge and publicly thank those volunteers who have assisted with the distribution of bottled water since the bottled water alert was announced.



**Councillor T Toomey**

**Supporting Councillors:**

NAME OF COUNCILLOR: Bob Crouch

SIGNED: 

04 February 2020



## NOTICE OF MOTION

<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Cr Tara Toomey</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion 3 - Proactive Marketing to Recover Brand Damage

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

**Objective:** 2.1 An attractive environment for business, tourism and industry  
**Strategy:** 2.1.1 Promote Uralla Shire and the region as a place to live, work visit and invest

### COUNCILLOR'S MOTION:

*That Council authorise the General Manager :*

- 1. to seek funding from the State and Federal government to meet the cost of :*
  - the development of a Uralla Shire map identifying businesses*
  - a visit by a travel writer*
  - promotional social media video*

### BACKGROUND:

*The recent occurrence of elevated arsenic levels required Council to issue an alert that many believe has led some travellers and customers of Uralla Shire businesses to rethink their decisions about visiting and shopping in our Shire. Considering the hard won reputation as a food, wine, shopping and dining destination that Uralla Shire businesses have established over the years, this is an unacceptable perception that Council has an obligation to proactively address.*

*The introduction of a map of the Uralla Shire that identifies the many food, beverage, shopping and dining venues and businesses is long overdue and would help repair the damage done by the recent media coverage which has all the wrong connotations.*

*The use of a travel writer already familiar with – and very fond of – our Shire is a good first step. This puts the Uralla Shire in the media for all the right reasons.*

*The development of a promotional video for use on social media would provide a simple and cost effective way of promoting the Uralla Shire as a destination.*

*Discussion with the business community has been very positive to each of these ideas, with the map deemed a long overdue necessity. Current estimates would put \$5,000 as the cost of each exercise.*

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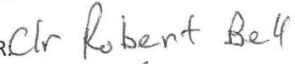
**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

1. Seeks funding from the State and Federal government to meet the cost of :
  - a. The development of a Uralla Shire map which identifies businesses operating within the Uralla Shire; and
  - b. A visit by a travel writer who will ensure that their appraisal will appear in some form of media to promote Uralla Shire Council in a positive light; and
  - c. Creating a promotional social media video of Uralla Shire as part of a long term online campaign.

  
Councillor T Toomey

**Supporting Councillors:**

NAME OF COUNCILLOR 

SIGNED: 



04 February 2020



## NOTICE OF MOTION

<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Cr Tara Toomey</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion 4 - Appointment of Interim General Manager

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

<b>Objective:</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>A strong, accountable and representative Council</b>
<b>Strategy:</b>	<b>4.1.3</b>	<b>Provide open, accountable and transparent decision making for the community</b>
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>4.1.3.1</b>	<b>Implement and maintain a transparent and accountable decision making framework</b>

### SUMMARY:

*Under Section 336 of the Local Government Act, Council is required to appoint the General Manager. With the term of the current Acting General Manager coming to an end, Council needs to determine whether to offer an extension of his appointment or to appoint a new Acting General Manager while the recruitment for a permanent General Manager is undertaken.*

### 336 Filling of vacancy in position of general manager

- (1) If a vacancy occurs in the position of general manager, the council must immediately appoint a person under [Section 334](#) to the vacant position or appoint a person to act in the vacant position.
- (2) A vacancy occurs in the position of general manager if the general manager--
  - (a) dies, or
  - (b) completes the term of his or her contract and is not re-appointed, or
  - (c) resigns from the position, or
  - (d) becomes a mentally incapacitated person and is removed from the position by the council because of that mental incapacity, or
  - (e) is sentenced to imprisonment, or
  - (f) is removed from the position for breach of or under the terms of the general manager's contract with the council.

### COUNCILLOR'S MOTION:

***That Council appoint an Acting General Manager from outside the organisation to fulfil the role while the recruiting for the permanent position is undertaken.***

### CONCLUSION:

*In view of the workload Council staff are currently under it is unreasonable to expect that existing staff have the capacity to take on this enormously important role for our Council. In fact, even with an Acting General*

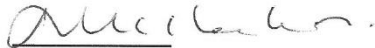
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*Manager, the current workload was too high for the monthly newsletter to be produced during January. It is therefore appropriate that an external party be brought in to fill this role while a permanent replacement is sought.*

**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council continue to liaise with Mr Christian Morris, Management Consultant at Local Government Management, regarding the appointment of an interim General Manager until a permanent General Manager is appointed. For continuity purposes an external Acting General Manager appointment does need to be made until the new General Manager is appointed.

The decision not to produce a newsletter for January 2020 was made based on readership during the holiday period and on issues associated with the bottled water alert and not because the Acting General Managers workload was too high.



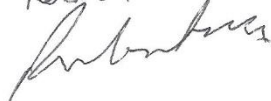
**Councillor Tara Toomey**

**Supporting Councillors:**

NAME OF COUNCILLOR:

*Mr Robert Bell*

SIGNED:



NAME OF COUNCILLOR:

SIGNED:

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## NOTICE OF MOTION

<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Cr Tara Toomey</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion 5 - General Manager Remuneration

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

<b>Objective:</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>A strong, accountable and representative Council</b>
<b>Strategy:</b>	<b>4.1.3</b>	<b>Provide open, accountable and transparent decision making for the community</b>
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>4.1.3.1</b>	<b>Implement and maintain a transparent and accountable decision making framework</b>

### COUNCILLOR'S MOTION:

*That Council agree to include an additional sum of \$10,000 in the remuneration package offered to the successful applicant, contingent upon that additional sum being spent on rent or stamp duty for a property based in the Uralla Shire.*

### BACKGROUND:


*While Council respects the choice of where to live for our General Manager is entirely up to the successful applicant, the community have long felt disappointed that previous General Managers have not resided anywhere in our wonderful Shire.*

*In an attempt to arrest this trend, this motion seeks to provide a financial incentive to the successful applicant, to take up residence in the Uralla Shire.*

### OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION:

That Council provide a one-off payment of up to \$10,000 to the successful applicant for the position of General Manager at Uralla Shire Council, such payment only to be spent on either:

- stamp duty to acquire a principal place of residence in the Uralla Shire and that the General Manager intends to reside in during his tenure as General Manager; or
- rental of a property in the Uralla Shire that will be the principal place of residence that the General Manager intends to reside in during his tenure as General Manager.

  
Councillor T Toomey

### Supporting Councillors:

NAME OF COUNCILLOR: Bob Crouch

SIGNED: 

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