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**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL  
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON  
TUESDAY, 12 MARCH 2024 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

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**PRESENT**

The Mayor, Doug Curran in the Chair; Councillors, Shari Blumer, Simon Croce, Jenny Ellis, Melissa Marin, Anne Napoli, Christine Stead, Chris Sutton and Dino Zappacosta

**STAFF**

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet, Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Acting Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Max Turner, Director Sustainable Development, Bruce Gibbs and Minute Taker, Hannah Hall

**MEDIA**

Cai Holroyd, The Area News

**1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Meeting opened with Councillor Melissa Marin reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

**2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS**

24/056

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that apologies be received from Councillors Glen Andrezza, Manjit Singh Lally and Laurie Testoni and a leave of absence granted.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.**

### **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

24/057

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Melissa Marin that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 27 February 2024, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.**

### **4 BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

### **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### **Pecuniary Interests**

*Councillors making a pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.*

Councillor Anne Napoli  
CL01 Endorsement of the Health Precinct Master Plan – Following Public Exhibition.  
Reason – I own a property identified in this report.

#### **Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests**

*Councillors making a significant non-pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.*

Councillor Dino Zappacosta  
CL02 Suspension of Alcohol Free Zone & Alcohol Prohibited Area – Kooyoo Street Mall Event – Punjabi Mela – 20 April 2024  
Reason – I own a liquor licence.

#### **Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests**

*Councillors making a less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration may stay in the meeting and participate in the debate and vote on the matter.*

Councillor Shari Blumer  
CL01 Endorsement of the Health Precinct Master Plan following Public Exhibition  
Reason – One of my relatives made a submission.

## **6 PRESENTATIONS**

The Mayor presented a token of appreciation to Griffith City Council which was received from the Giants Netball team after their pre-season match against the Melbourne Mavericks, held at the Griffith Regional Sport Centre.

## **7 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

## **8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

24/058

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Dino Zappacosta and Christine Stead that CC01 – Notice of Motion – Legal Matter be moved from Closed Council to Open Council.

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

For	Against
Councillor Simon Croce	Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Dino Zappacosta	Councillor Shari Blumer
	Councillor Jenny Ellis
	Councillor Melissa Marin
	Councillor Anne Napoli
	Councillor Christine Stead
	Councillor Chris Sutton

**The division was declared LOST by 7 votes to 2.**

*Councillor Anne Napoli left the meeting having declared a Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, the time being 7:13pm.*

## **CL01 ENDORSEMENT OF THE HEALTH PRECINCT MASTER PLAN FOLLOWING PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

24/059

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Simon Croce and Melissa Marin that:

- (a) Council notes the submissions received at Attachment B of the report;
- (b) Council endorses the Griffith Health Precinct Master Plan;
- (c) Council reviews the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan to ensure any of the recommendations in the Master Plan regarding development controls can be actioned; and
- (d) Council awaits new NSW legislation specific to the development of Local Precincts prior to implementing the other recommendations of the plan.

For	Against
Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Simon Croce	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Melissa Marin	
Councillor Christine Stead	

Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

**The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.**

*Councillor Anne Napoli returned to the meeting, the time being 7:14pm.*

*Councillor Dino Zappacosta left the meeting having declared a Significant Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, the time being 7:14pm.*

**CL02 SUSPENSION OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONE AND ALCOHOL PROHIBITED AREA - KOOYOO STREET MALL EVENT - PUNJABI MELA - 20 APRIL 2024**

24/060

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Anne Napoli that Council suspend the Alcohol Free Zone and Alcohol Prohibited Area restrictions on Kooyoo Street from 5.00pm – 10.00pm on Saturday, 20 April 2024.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.**

*Councillor Dino Zappacosta returned to the meeting, the time being 7:15pm.*

**CL03 REQUEST FOR NEW ROAD NAME - MARIANNE CRESCENT**

24/061

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead that Council:

- (a) Includes the name 'MARIANNE' for road naming purposes for the newly developed road within the 13 lot rural industrial subdivision at 425 Kidman Way, Griffith into Council's Road Name Register;
- (b) Approves the use of the name 'Marianne Crescent' and advertise as required.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

Councillor Melissa Marin

**The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 1.**

**CL04 QUICK TURN AROUND GRANT APPLICATION MURRUMBIDGEE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL HARMONY DAY**

24/062

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis that Council approve the application for a Quick Turn Around Grant of \$1,500 to Murrumbidgee Regional High School Harmony Day program/event.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against  
Councillor Melissa Marin

**The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 1.**

**CL05 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S INFORMATION GUIDE 2024**

24/063

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Chris Sutton that Council adopt the revised Agency Information Guide as per the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.**

**CL06 GRIFFITH CITY LIBRARY CLOSURE**

24/064

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Jenny Ellis that:

- (a) The Griffith City Library building be closed to physical public access from Monday, 18 March to Friday, 22 March 2024 for the purposes of installation of new shelving and reconfiguration of library shelving layout.
- (b) Extensive community notification occur to inform the community of this temporary closure and the options to access library resources during this period.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis

Against

Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

The division was declared **PASSED** by 9 votes to 0.

## **9 INFORMATION REPORTS**

Nil

## **10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **MINUTES OF THE LAKE WYANGAN & CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 FEBRUARY 2024**

24/065

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Chris Sutton that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Lake Wyangan & Catchment Management Committee meeting held on 15 February 2024 be adopted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

The division was declared **PASSED** by 9 votes to 0.

## **11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

## **12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS**

### **NOTICE OF MOTION - UPGRADE TO ORIGINAL BAGTOWN'S FIRST BLACKSMITH STORE SITE**

24/066

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Dino Zappacosta and Simon Croce that Council upgrade the original Bagtown's first Blacksmith Store site at the Intersection of Old Wilbriggie (sic) Road and Research Station Road.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

The division was declared **PASSED** by 9 votes to 0.

### **13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT**

24/067

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Simon Croce and Melissa Marin that the report be noted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

The division was declared **PASSED** by 9 votes to 0.

### **14 MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH BY CLOSED COUNCIL**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Set out below is Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to matters which can be dealt with in the closed part of a meeting.

**The matters and information are the following:**

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)**
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer**
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business**
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:**
  - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or**
  - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or**
  - (iii) reveal a trade secret**
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law**

- (f) **matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property**
- (g) **advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege**
- (h) **information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on Community land.**
- (i) **alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under section 440 of the Local Government Act 1993.**

24/068

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Chris Sutton that:

- (a) Council resolve to go into closed Council to consider business identified.
- (b) Pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provision of section [10A(2)] as outlined above.
- (c) The correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.**

Council resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items listed below, and that discussion of the report in open Council would be contrary to the public interest.

**CC01 NOTICE OF MOTION - LEGAL MATTER**

Reason: Personnel Matters 10A(2)(a) and Legal Proceedings 10A(2)(g)

**CC02 RFQ NO. 9-23/24 - DESIGN, SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF A DIFFUSED AERATION SYSTEM FOR THE GWRP**

Reason: Commercial Advantage 10A(2)(d)

Council closed its meeting at 7:39pm.

The public and media left the Chamber.

Livestream was disconnected.



## **REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL**

24/069

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Chris Sutton that Open Council be resumed.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.**

Open Council resumed at 7:46pm.

Livestream was reconnected.

Upon resuming open Council the General Manager reported that the following resolutions had been made in Closed Council:

## **MATTERS DEALT WITH IN CLOSED COUNCIL**

### **CC01 NOTICE OF MOTION - LEGAL MATTER**

Councillor Melissa Marin asked the General Manager at what point through the process did Council begin seeking legal advice. The General Manager took this **ON NOTICE**.

24/070

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Dino Zappacosta and Christine Stead that Council provide a report on all legal costs incurred leading up to, and including, the Full Bench of the Industrial Relation Commission Appeal decision handed down recently.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Chris Sutton

**The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 3.**

### **CC02 RFQ NO. 9-23/24 - DESIGN, SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF A DIFFUSED AERATION SYSTEM FOR THE GWRP**

24/071

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Chris Sutton that Council proceed with the appointment of INVENT Pacific Pty Ltd for Option 1, the Design, Supply and Delivery of a Diffused Aeration System for the Griffith Water Reclamation Plant and installation to be carried out by Griffith City Council and local contractors.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.**

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 7:49pm.

Confirmed: .....

CHAIRPERSON