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**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL  
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON  
TUESDAY, 14 MAY 2024 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

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**PRESENT**

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

**STAFF**

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet, Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Director Sustainable Development, Bruce Gibbs and Minute Taker, Joanne Bollen

**MEDIA**

Cai Holroyd, The Area News

**1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Meeting opened with Councillor Dino Zappacosta 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**

24/133

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Glen Andreatza that apologies be received from Councillors Manjit Singh Lally and Anne Napoli and Acting Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Max Turner, and a leave of absence granted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreatza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

### **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

24/134

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Simon Croce that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 7 May 2024, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreatza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

### **4 BUSINESS ARISING**

#### **8 Business with Notice – Rescission Motions**

Councillor Christine Stead foreshadowed a Notice of Motion on behalf of Councillor Anne Napoli regarding the upgrade of the animal enclosure at Lake Wyangan.

### **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 Christine Stead  
CL01 Draft Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems Policy  
Reason – I am a voting member of the Regional Planning Panel

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

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

#### **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 Laurie Testoni  
CC03 Request to Waive Fees  
Reason – Chairman of Griffith City Sports Council

### **6 PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

## **7 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

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

*Councillor Christine Stead left the meeting having declared a Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, the time being 7:09pm.*

### **CL01 DRAFT SOLAR ENERGY FARMS AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS POLICY**

24/135

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Glen Andreazza and Chris Sutton that:

- (a) Council endorse the Draft Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems Policy, as Attachment a, to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- (b) Should submissions be received, a report with recommendations be presented back to an Ordinary Council Meeting for final endorsement.
- (c) Should no submissions be received, the Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems Policy is considered endorsed the day after the close of the public exhibition period.
- (d) Council prepare a draft Agriculture Impact Assessment guideline modelled on the DPHI Large Scale Solar Energy Guideline but modified to place more prescription and detail requirements on the proponent with respect to cumulative impact of agricultural productivity in the region.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

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

*Councillor Christine Stead returned to the meeting, the time being 7:14pm.*

### **CL02 2024 NSW LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS**

24/136

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis that:

- (a) Council nominate Councillor Glen Andreazza and the General Manager (or his delegate) to attend the NSW Local Roads Congress on 3 June 2024.
- (b) Expenses to attend the Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillors Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andrezza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

**The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 4.**

## **9 INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **CL03 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

24/137

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Glen Andrezza and Laurie Testoni that the report be noted by Council.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andrezza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

### **CL04 DISCLOSURES BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS RETURNS - APRIL 2024**

24/138

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Melissa Marin that the Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons Returns for new Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee members be noted.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andrezza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

## **10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024**

24/139

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Simon Croce and Melissa Marin that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 16 April 2024 be adopted.

For	Against
Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Glen Andreatza	
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Simon Croce	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Melissa Marin	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Chris Sutton	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	
Councillor Dino Zappacosta	

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

### **MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 MAY 2024**

24/140

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Glen Andreatza that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 1 May 2024 be adopted.

For	Against
Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Glen Andreatza	
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Simon Croce	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Melissa Marin	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Chris Sutton	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	
Councillor Dino Zappacosta	

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

### **MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 MAY 2024**

24/141

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Melissa Marin that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee meeting held on 1 May 2024 be adopted.

For	Against
Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Glen Andreatza	
Councillor Shari Blumer	

Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

The division was declared **PASSED** by 10 votes to 0.

**MINUTES OF THE MEMORIAL PARK GARDENS EMBELLISHMENT COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON 1 MAY 2024**

24/142

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Jenny Ellis that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Memorial Park Gardens Embellishment Committee meeting held on 1 May 2024 be adopted.

For	Against
Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Glen Andreazza	
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Simon Croce	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Melissa Marin	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Chris Sutton	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	
Councillor Dino Zappacosta	

The division was declared **PASSED** by 10 votes to 0.

**11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

**12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS**

**NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM THE MAYOR, DOUG CURRAN**

24/143

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Glen Andreazza that:

- (a) By way of application from the home owner, that Council allows the owner of 3 Hillston Street to remove the 2 trees at the front of the home on the nature strip at their own cost.
- (b) That the home owner replace the trees at their own cost, and that they consult with Council's Parks & Gardens team to ensure compatibility with the existing street scape.

For	Against
Councillor Doug Curran	Councillor Dino Zappacosta
Councillor Glen Andreazza	
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Simon Croce	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	

Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 1.**

*Councillor Melissa Marin left the meeting, the time being 7:47pm.*

*Councillor Melissa Marin returned to the meeting, the time being 7:48pm.*

*Councillor Simon Croce left the meeting, the time being 7:50pm.*

*Councillor Simon Croce returned to the meeting, the time being 7:52pm.*

### **13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT**

24/144

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Glen Andreazza and Melissa Marin that the report be noted.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 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.

24/145

**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 Glen Andreatza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 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 LEGAL MATTER**

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

**CC02 TENDER NO. 6-23/24 - EXTENSION TO SHED AT 53 OAKES ROAD GRIFFITH**

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

**CC03 REQUEST TO WAIVE FEES**

Reason: Personal Hardship 10A(2)(b)

**CC04 ST VINCENT'S PRIVATE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL GRIFFITH. REQUEST TO DRAW FUNDS FROM GCC SINKING FUND FOR LIFT REPLACEMENT**

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



Council closed its meeting at 8:19pm.

The public and media left the Chamber.

Livestream was disconnected.

### **REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL**

24/146

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

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

Open Council resumed at 8:44pm.

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 LEGAL MATTER**

24/147

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Chris Sutton that Council note the Report.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

Councillor Dino Zappacosta

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 1.**

**CC02 TENDER NO. 6-23/24 - EXTENSION TO SHED AT 53 OAKES ROAD GRIFFITH**

24/148

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Glen Andreazza and Chris Sutton that Council accepts the quotation of The Shed Company Option 3 at a cost of \$226,500 plus GST.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

**CC03 REQUEST TO WAIVE FEES**

24/149

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Glen Andreazza that Council apply a charge to the organisation of \$700.00 for the past hire of Jubilee Oval Kiosk over 7 weekends.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

Against  
Councillor Chris Sutton

**The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 1.**

**CC04 ST VINCENT'S PRIVATE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL GRIFFITH. REQUEST TO DRAW FUNDS FROM GCC SINKING FUND FOR LIFT REPLACEMENT**

24/150

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Glen Andreazza and Christine Stead that:

- (a) Griffith City Council endorse the request for \$6,935 Excl GST to be reimbursed to St Vincent's Private Community Hospital Griffith from the Council held Sinking Fund in order to fund additional costs for the replacement of the lift at the hospital.
- (b) Council note that the balance of the Sinking Fund after the above mentioned reimbursement in (a) will be \$67,716.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Glen Andreazza  
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

Councillor Simon Croce  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Melissa Marin  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Chris Sutton  
Councillor Laurie Testoni  
Councillor Dino Zappacosta

**The division was declared PASSED by 10 votes to 0.**

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8:47pm.

Confirmed: .....

CHAIRPERSON