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**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL  
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON  
TUESDAY, 11 MARCH 2025 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

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**PRESENT**

The Mayor, Doug Curran in the Chair; Councillors, Shari Blumer, Mark Dal Bon, Jenny Ellis, Scott Groat, Anne Napoli, Tony O'Grady, Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni

**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, Joe Rizzo and Minute Takers, Leanne Austin & Antoinette Galluzzo.

**MEDIA**

Cai Holroyd, The Area News

**1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Meeting opened with Councillor Laurie Testoni reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

A Minute's silence was held in respect of the recent passing of Mr Tom Marriott.

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

No apologies or requests for leave of absence were received.

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

25/057

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 25 February 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat

Against

Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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

#### **4 BUSINESS ARISING**

##### **Notice of Motion – Councillor Shari Blumer**

Councillor Blumer issued an apology to Councillors Groat and Napoli in relation to an unintentional comment she made during discussion of the Notice of Motion. Councillors Groat and Napoli accepted the apology.

#### **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.*

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

##### **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.*

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  
CL03 – Petition for Cleanliness & Revitalisation of our City  
Reason – I have had several conversations with Mrs Wood about this petition. No personal loss or gains to myself about this issue.

#### **6 PRESENTATIONS**

Certificate of Thanks – Griffith City to Lake

25/058

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that the meeting suspend standing orders to allow Olga Forner from Griffith CanAssist to present Council with a Certificate of Thanks for its contribution to Griffith City to Lake.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis

Against

Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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

25/059

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the meeting resume standing orders.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

## **7 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

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

### **CL01 SUSPENSION OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONE AND ALCOHOL PROHIBITED AREA - KOOYOO STREET MALL EVENT - PUNJABI MELA - 12 APRIL 2025**

25/060

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that Council suspend the Alcohol Free Zone and Alcohol Prohibited Area restrictions on Kooyoo Street from 5.00pm – 10.00pm on Saturday, 12 April 2025.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

**CL02 QUICK TURN AROUND GRANT - MURRUMBIDGEE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (WADE) - HARMONY DAY**

25/061

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Jenny Ellis that Council approves the application for a Quick Turn Around Grant of \$2,121 to Griffith Regional High School (Wade) for Harmony Day activities.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

**9 INFORMATION REPORTS**

**CL03 PETITION FOR CLEANLINESS & REVITALISATION OF OUR CITY**

25/062

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that the meeting suspend standing orders to allow Doreen Wood to address Council.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

25/063

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that the meeting resume standing orders.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against

Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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

25/064

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Tony O'Grady that the petition be received and noted.

Councillor Testoni requested the petition be referred to the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

## **10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2025**

25/065

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 17 February 2025 be adopted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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 - COUNCILLOR MARK DAL BON**

Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Anne Napoli moved the following **MOTION** that:

- (a) Griffith City Council support in principle, the removal of timed restricted parking on Saturday mornings in Banna Avenue Griffith.
- (b) Council undertake a community survey to inform the level of support for this in-principle decision, with survey results to be reported to Council.
- (c) A further report to Council include an audit of the current timed parking signage in Banna Avenue and a cost to remove and replace signage with the revised restrictions.
- (d) The Report also to consider any changes to other streets in the CBD where timed parking is enforced on a Saturday.
- (e) Councils in-principle decision be referred to the Traffic Committee for feedback to Council.

The Motion was PUT and LOST.

For  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Anne Napoli

Against  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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

## **13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT**

25/066

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Christine Stead that the report be noted.

For  
Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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.**

25/067

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat 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 Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat

Against

Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

**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 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Reason: Personnel Matters 10A(2)(a)

Council closed its meeting at 7:56pm. The public and media left the Chamber. Livestream was disconnected.

**REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL**

25/068

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

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

Open Council resumed at 8:05.

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 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

25/069

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that:

(a) Council adopt the draft Terms of Reference for the below mentioned Committees for the 2024-2028 term of Council as provided in Attachment A:

- Airport Committee
- Disability Inclusion & Access Committee



- Floodplain Management Committee
- Lake Wyangan and Catchment Management Committee
- Landfill / FOGO Committee
- New Cemetery Masterplan Committee
- Pioneer Park Museum Committee
- Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee
- Scenic Hill User Group
- Saleyards Committee

- (b) Council endorse representatives based on merit to the following Council Committees as recommended by the Committee Chairperson as follows:

Airport Committee – Michael Borg, Robert Ryan, Garry Harriman, Jason Gordon, Roslyn Frawley, Peter Little

Disability Inclusion & Access Committee – Jodie Ridge, Soheil Derakshan, Marilyn Hams, Suzanne Biondo, Geoff Tarr, Jaimee Damini, Ralph Twaddell

Lake Wyangan and Catchment Management Committee – John Tagliapietra, Scott Collis, Jade Salvestro, Frank Battistel, Dr Saroja Nagaraj Gurazada, Lisa Parker, Reginald Brown, Matthew Woodward, Ema Munro, Kelvin Williams, Joel Undy

Landfill / FOGO Committee – Lisa Parker, Susan Forner, Stephen Violi, Wendy Borg, Brian Irvin

New Cemetery Masterplan Committee – Virginia Tropeano, Daniel Calabro/Jake Hubbard (1 Vote), Wendy Collis, Peter Woodward, Pamela Kensett-Smith, Bruno Guidolin, Anthony Kidman

Pioneer Park Museum Committee – Dolf Murwood, Jenna Thomas, Michael Rohan, Robyn Turner, Desma Newman, Peter Taylor, John Nikolic, Virginia Tropeano, Denis Couch, Neil Dal Nevo

Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee – Jenna Thomas, Stephen Parker, Amy Renouf, Kevin Taylor, Ema Munro, Brian Savage, Carmel La Rocca, Simone Murphy, Will Mead, Nicola Thoner, Anthony Kidman

Scenic Hill User Group – Helen Vowles, Sally Bamblett, Lachlan Weymouth, Bruno Guidolin, Ronald Anson, Denis Couch, Desma Newman, Timothy Ellis

Saleyards Committee – Rodney Evans, Donald Barbaro, Grant Elwin

For

Councillor Doug Curran  
Councillor Shari Blumer  
Councillor Mark Dal Bon  
Councillor Jenny Ellis  
Councillor Scott Groat  
Councillor Anne Napoli  
Councillor Tony O'Grady  
Councillor Christine Stead  
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8:10pm.

Confirmed: .....

CHAIRPERSON