



**Minutes of the ExtraOrdinary Council Meeting  
held at the Council Chambers  
4 Breese Parade, Forster**

**24 January 2018**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Embry", is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature is a large, stylized, handwritten flourish or scribble.

Steve Embry  
**Acting General Manager**

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Minutes of the ExtraOrdinary Meeting of the MidCoast Council held at the Council Chambers, Breese Parade, Forster on 24 January 2018 commencing at 11.29am.

## **PRESENT**

Present: Mayor Cr D West, Cr K Bell, Cr B Christensen, Cr P Epov, Cr T Fowler, Cr K Hutchinson, Cr D Keegan, Cr J McWilliams, Cr C Pontin, Cr L Roberts and Cr K Smith

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Acting General Manager - Steve Embry  
Director Planning & Natural Systems - Lisa Schiff  
Director Engineering & Infrastructure - Ron Hartley  
Director Community Spaces & Services - Paul De Szell  
Director Water Services - Brendan Guiney  
Minute Taker - Lyn Hickey - Corporate Support Officer

The following document is the Minutes of the ExtraOrdinary Council meeting held on 24 January 2018.

These Minutes are subject to confirmation as to their accuracy at the next available meeting and therefore subject to change.

Please refer to the Minutes of the next available meeting for confirmation.

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The Mayor read aloud the following statement:

"The proceedings of this Meeting will be recorded by Council to assist in ensuring the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting.

"Persons in the gallery are advised that under the Local Government Act, 1993 a person may **NOT** record the proceedings of a meeting of a Council or Committee **WITHOUT** the authority of the Council or Committee. Record includes a tape, video camera and any electronic device capable of recording speech.

"Local media outlets may be recording the proceedings of the meeting with permission for later broadcast.

"Members of the public addressing Council should refrain from divulging personal information about themselves or other individuals or making defamatory statements.

"It would also be appreciated if mobile phones could be switched off so as to not disrupt the meeting. Thank you".

2BOB Radio recorded the proceedings of the meeting for later broadcast.

The Mayor advised that a request has been received in writing to allow Prime TV to record the start of the meeting.

## **2/18 RESOLUTION**

(Moved Cr K Hutchinson/Seconded Cr D Keegan)

That Prime TV be allowed to record the start of the meeting.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS**

The Mayor recognised the traditional custodians of the lands contained in the MidCoast Council area - being the Gathang speaking people and paid respect to their heritage and their elders - past and present.

## **PRAYER**

The Mayor read the Local Government prayer.

## **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

## **APOLOGIES**

Nil.

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## **ADDRESSES FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY**

### Item 1 - Financial Statements and Auditors Reports for Financial Period 13 May 2016 to 30 June 2017 - MidCoast Council

Mrs Robyn Jenkins addressed Council in relation to Item 1 and raised concerns in regard to the report.

Mrs Jenkins answered questions from Councillors.

Mrs Pattie Hogan addressed Council in relation to Item 1 and asked a number of questions in regard to the report, and requested that a written response be provided addressing the questions raised.

Mrs Hogan answered questions from Councillors

### Item 3 Office Relocation Investigation (Biripi Way, Taree)

Mrs Katrina Pearson addressed Council against the recommendation.

Mrs Katrina Pearson answered questions from Councillors.

### Item 1 - Financial Statements and Auditors Reports for Financial Period 13 May 2016 to 30 June 2017 - MidCoast Council

A presentation was given on the above Item from Mr James Sugumar (Director, Financial Audit Services) and Mr Wayne Beauman of RSM Australia.

## **CONSIDERATION OF OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

## **DIRECTOR CORPORATE & BUSINESS SYSTEMS**

### **1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & AUDITORS REPORTS FOR FINANCIAL PERIOD 13 MAY 2016 TO 30 JUNE 2017 - MID-COAST COUNCIL**

**Report Author Phil Brennan, Manager Finance**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the audited Financial Statements for Mid-Coast Council for the financial period 13 May 2016 to 30 June 2017.

#### **3/18 RESOLUTION**

(Moved Cr C Pontin/Seconded Cr J McWilliams)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

FOR VOTE - Cr D West, Cr K Bell, Cr B Christensen, Cr P Epov, Cr T Fowler, Cr K Hutchinson, Cr D Keegan, Cr J McWilliams, Cr C Pontin, Cr L Roberts, Cr K Smith,

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### **2 DELEGATIONS TO ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

**Report Author Rob Griffiths, Manager, Governance**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the person appointed by Council to act as General Manager commencing on the first day the current General Manager resignation takes effect (2 February 2018) pursuant to this resolution have all the functions, delegations and sub delegations given to the General Manager by the Council.
2. That if the person specified in Recommendation 1 (above) is sick or otherwise absent from work on leave for a period of two consecutive days, Council should appoint an alternative person. That appointment would cease upon the return to work of the Acting General Manager or other resolution of Council.
3. That any person acting as General Manager pursuant to this resolution has all the functions, delegations, and sub-delegations given to the General Manager by the Council.

#### **4/18 RESOLUTION**

(Moved Cr K Hutchinson/Seconded Cr C Pontin)

1. That the person appointed by Council to act as General Manager commencing on the first day the current General Manager's resignation takes effect (24 January 2018) pursuant to this resolution have all the functions, delegations and sub delegations given to the General Manager by the Council.
2. That any person Acting as General Manager pursuant to this resolution has all the functions, delegations, and sub-delegations given to the General Manager by the Council.

FOR VOTE - Cr D West, Cr K Bell, Cr B Christensen, Cr T Fowler, Cr K Hutchinson, Cr D Keegan, Cr J McWilliams, Cr C Pontin, Cr L Roberts, Cr K Smith

AGAINST VOTE - Cr P Epov

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Matter Arising

Moved by Cr K Bell/Seconded Cr P Epov

That a report be presented to the Council Strategic Committee meeting in February, outlining the delegations and sub-delegations given to the General Manager by the Council.

The motion was put to the vote and declared lost.

FOR VOTE - Cr K Bell, Cr P Epov, Cr D Keegan

AGAINST VOTE - Cr D West, Cr B Christensen, Cr T Fowler, Cr K Hutchinson, Cr J McWilliams, Cr C Pontin, Cr L Roberts, Cr K Smith,

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**3 OFFICE RELOCATION INVESTIGATION (BIRIPI WAY, TAREE)**  
**Report Author Steve Embry, Director Corporate & Business Systems**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the contents of this Report.

**5/18 RESOLUTION**

(Moved Cr L Roberts/Seconded Cr B Christensen)

FOR VOTE - Cr C West; Cr K Bell, Cr B Christensen, Cr T Fowler, Cr K Hutchinson, Cr J McWilliams, Cr C Pontin, Cr L Roberts, Cr K Smith

AGAINST VOTE - Cr P Epov, Cr D Keegan

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This is the last page of the minutes of the ExtraOrdinary Council meeting of MidCoast Council held on 24 January 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.07PM.

**CHAIRPERSON**