

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CARRATHOOL SHIRE COUNCIL HELD
AT THE GOOLGOWI COUNCIL CHAMBERS
on Tuesday, 17 December 2024, commencing at 10.00 am**

1. PRESENT

Councillors: DL Jardine (Mayor), GR Peters, Cr DP Fensom, HJ Lyall, Cr CM McKeon, Cr B Furner, MS Armstrong, Cr NJ Smith, Cr JB Parsons, and Cr A-M Young.

Staff: General Manager Rick Warren, Director Corporate & Community Services Robert Rayner, Management Accountant Sarah Donnelly, and Manager Infrastructure Services Willem De Meyer.

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A request for leave of absence was received from Cr C McKeon.

0069 RESOLVED that the request for leave of absence from Cr C McKeon be received and granted.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded Cr DP Fensom

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Report	Councillor/ Officer	Reason	Pecuniary / Non-Pecuniary
10.6	Cr A-M Young	Former Principal Goolgowi Public School	Non-Pecuniary
10.11	Cr HJ Lyall	President of the Hillston Ladies Golf Club	Non-Pecuniary
12.1	Cr JB Parsons	Cousin nominated in Australia Day Awards	Non-Pecuniary
12.1	Cr GR Peters	Grandchildren nominated in Australia Day Awards	Non-Pecuniary

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

0070 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Carrathool Shire Council held on 17 November 2024 as circulated to all Councillors, be confirmed.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr GR Peters / Seconded: Cr MS Armstrong

5. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

6. MOTIONS & QUESTIONS (NOTICE GIVEN)

6.1 Notice of Motion – Construction of Shelter Alan James Park Rankins Springs

Moved by Cr Parsons and seconded by Cr Lyall that Council considers in the 2025/26 budget the construction of a shelter structure at Alan James Park in Rankins Springs.

An amendment was moved by Cr Jardine that:

1. the proposal of a pergola type shelter being built in Alan James Park, be put to the Rankins Springs Community as a whole for suggestions and comments, and;
2. that it comes back to Council as a shovel ready project with full costings including all fees with Council then being able to vote on that accordingly.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr DL Jardine / Seconded Cr B Furner

The amendment was carried and became the motion, the motion was then put and carried.

0071 RESOLVED that:

1. the proposal of a pergola type shelter being built in Alan James Park be put to the Rankins Springs Community as a whole for suggestions and comments, and that;
2. the proposal comes back to Council as a shovel ready project with full costings, and designs including all fees with Council then being able to vote on that accordingly.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr DL Jardine / Seconded Cr B Furner

7. PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES (WHERE SCHEDULED)

Nil

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS

Nil

8. MAYORAL REPORTS

8.1 Mayors Report

0072 RESOLVED that Council note the Mayors report to the December 2024 meeting.
CARRIED Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded Cr B Furner

9. DELEGATES REPORTS

Cr Furner gave a verbal report on her attendance at the Annual Local Government Conference that she attended in the company of Cr Lyall and the Director Corporate and Community Services, Mr Robert Rayner. She gave an insight into the various functions, speakers and politicians that were at the conference, and stated that some were very interesting, and commented on how well the meeting was run. She also thanked Council for the opportunity to attend. With all acknowledging that it was a worthwhile event.

0073 RESOLVED that Council note the delegates report by Cr Furner to the December 2024 meeting.
CARRIED Moved: Cr NJ Smith / Seconded Cr A-M Young

10.0 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

10.1 Ongoing Action from Previous Business Papers

0074 RESOLVED that the Council note the update on the action report for December 2024.
CARRIED Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr JB Parsons

10.2 Precis of Correspondence

10.2.1 Griffith Cycle Club – Annual Race

0075 RESOLVED that approve the Griffith Cycle Club event to be held on 18 May 2025 along the Rankins Springs Road from Beelbangera subject to compliance with the Traffic Control Plan provided and production of a current certificate of Public Liability Insurance.
CARRIED Moved: Cr GR Peters / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

10.2.2 Minister for Lands and Property – Hon. Stephen Kamper MP

0076 RESOLVED that Council note it has been appointed as Crown Land Manager of crown reserve 65264.
CARRIED Moved: Cr A-M Young / Seconded: Cr B Furner

10.2.3 Hillston Bluebirds RLFC – Request Sponsorship

0077 RESOLVED that Council give a donation of \$500.
CARRIED Moved: Cr B Furner / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

10.2.4 Rankins Springs Golf Club – Request Donation

0078 RESOLVED that Council give a donation of \$500 to the Rankins Springs Golf Club towards the 2024 Community Christmas Party.
CARRIED Moved: Cr B Furner / Seconded: Cr NJ Smith

10.3 Community Gardens Proposal – Hillston Lions Club

0079 RESOLVED that Council inform the Lions Club it is unable to accede to their request for a community garden in the Lions Park precinct however, it will consider such a garden being established behind the pump station on the corner of Keats and Burns Streets, Hillston.
CARRIED Moved: Cr GR Peters/ Seconded: Cr HJ Lyall

10.4 28th Hillston Outback Triathlon – 2nd March 2025

0080 RESOLVED that Council:

1. note the 2025 Hillston Triathlon will be held 2 March 2025.
2. approve use of the Hillston Swimming Pool for the event.
3. advertise road closures relative to the event, and;
4. provide the necessary signage to manage traffic and three employees necessary to control traffic on the day for four hours.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

10.5 Grassroots Enduro – Event 2025

0081 RESOLVED that Council:

1. note the proposed dates for the Grassroots Enduro Australian Event for 14 – 19 August 2025.
2. inform the applicant that Council will not approve closures of The Springs Road, Collins Street or Cowper Street.
3. request the proponent discuss the running of the event with the Manager of Infrastructure Services to involve as little disruption to normal traffic as is possible.
4. Approve closure of Jardines Road for the event and part closure of Back Hillston Road for Saturday 16 August and Sunday 17 August 2025.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr GJ Peters

10.6 Goolgowi Public School – Request Artwork on Council Building

0082 RESOLVED that Council:

1. inform the Principal of the Goolgowi Public School that it does not accede to her request to place murals on the preschool building or footpath.
2. develop a public art policy to address all display of artwork within public spaces and buildings of the Shire.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr GJ Peters

Crs NJ Smith, B Furner, and A-M Young wish to have their votes against the motion recorded.

10.7 Roads Proposal – 2025-2026

0083 RESOLVED that Council note the information relevant to Roads to Recovery funding and road funding in general and that a roads program of \$8 million is estimated for 2025/26.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr GJ Peters / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

10.8 Infrastructure Report

0084 RESOLVED that Council note the Infrastructure Report presented to the December meeting.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr HJ Lyall

10.9 Flood Restoration Status Report

0085 RESOLVED that Council note the progress to date on Flood Damage Road Works and that it has the work in hand to be finished around March/April 2025.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

10.10 Plant Report

0086 RESOLVED that Council note the Plant Report as of 30 November 2024.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr GJ Peters

12.07 pm Manager Building & Regulatory Services joined the meeting.

10.11 Development Applications – December 2024

0087 RESOLVED that the Determinations for Development Applications received for August and September 2024 be noted.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr MS Armstrong

12.16 pm Manager Building & Regulatory Services left the meeting.

10.12 Finance Report – Statement of Bank Balances – November 2024

0088 RESOLVED that Council note the Statement of Bank Balances as at 30 November 2024 and confirm payment of accounts as summarised in the reconciliation statement totalling \$6,221,265.48.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr GJ Peters / Seconded: Cr JB Parsons

10.13 Finance Report – Investments Schedule – November 2024

0089 RESOLVED that Council receive the investment report as at 30 November 2024 and it be noted that in accordance with clause 212 paragraph (1)(b) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, it can be certified that the investments listed have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr B Furner / Seconded: Cr A-M Young

10.14 Disability Inclusion Action Plan Review

0090 RESOLVED that Council

1. approve the draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan and place the document on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. adopt the Disability Inclusion Action Plan after the exhibition period if no submissions are received.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr DP Fensom / Seconded: Cr GJ Peters

10.15 Community Engagement Strategy Review

0091 RESOLVED that Council:

1. approve the draft Community Engagement Strategy and place the document on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. adopt the Community Engagement Strategy after the exhibition period if no submissions are received.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr A-M Young / Seconded: Cr HJ Lyall

10.16 Council Policy 082 – Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy

0092 RESOLVED that Council:

1. approve the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy and that the draft policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. adopt the policy after the public exhibition period if no submissions are received.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr GJ Peters / Seconded: Cr A-M Young

10.17 Council Policy 19 - Investment of Surplus Funds Policy

0093 RESOLVED that Council:

1. approve the draft Council Policy 19 – Investment of Surplus Funds and place the draft policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. adopt the policy after the exhibition period if no submissions are received.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr B Furner

10.18 State of our Shire Report

0094 RESOLVED that Council note and endorse the Carrathool Shire Council State of our Shire Report.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr B Furner / Seconded: Cr HJ Lyall

10.19 New Contract Management Policy

0095 RESOLVED that Council:

1. approve the draft Council Policy – Contract Management and place this draft policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. adopt the policy after the exhibition period if no submissions are received. note the report on the Rural Fire Service Levy.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr NJ Smith

10.20 Privacy and the Mandatory Notification of Data Breach Scheme

0096 RESOLVED that Council note the report on the Mandatory Notification of Data Breach Scheme.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

12.33 pm Community Development & Project Manager and the Community Development Officer joined the meeting.

10.21 Community Development Officer Report – December 2024

0097 RESOLVED that Council note the Community Development Officers report for November 2024.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

10.22 Lake Woorabinda Festival 2025

0098 RESOLVED that Council allocate \$41,000 from the General Fund Surplus for the 2025 Lake Woorabinda Festival, noting that any grant funds subsequently obtained will offset the expenditure.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr NJ Smith

10.23 Goolgowi Subdivision

0099 RESOLVED that Council:

1. proceed with the Goolgowi Subdivision.
2. identify \$500,000 from Development Reserve to undertake the works.
3. proceed with a detailed survey and design to establish a reliable cost base.
4. require a status report once the survey and design are completed.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr DP Fensom / Seconded: Cr A-M Young

1.04 pm the Council meeting adjourned for lunch

2.03 pm the Council meeting resumed after lunch

10.24 Shovel Ready Projects

0100 RESOLVED that Council take the following actions in regard to the shovel ready projects:

1. Hillston Town Heritage Walk
 - Upgrade brochures and walking guide at a cost of \$1,500
 - Update signage and integrate to website at a cost of \$5,000

These costs to be sourced from the 2024/25 general fund surplus.

2. Hughie Cameron Park Boardwalk

Seek quotation for a concept design and project scope which includes potential costs to undertake project.

3. Free Local Camping Area

Incorporate camping into the Hillston Arid Zone Botanic Gardens in accordance with Council resolution 0973 of August 2024.

4. Hillston Museum Project

Council continue to work with the Local Historical Society to source funding to restore and upgrade the Hillston Museum.

5. Painting Clover Leaf Silo – Rankins Springs

Council not proceed with this idea as a project.

6. Rankins Springs Railway Turntable

Council to continue to pursue this item as a project.

7. Lachlan River Art Trail

Council work with Lachlan Shire Council to further develop this concept with a view to determining a scope and cost for both the Lake Cargelligo to Hillston concept and the Lake Cargelligo to Rankins Springs concept.

8. Black Stump Trail

- Council update brochure and walking guides at a cost of \$1,500.
- Upgrade signage and integrate to website at a cost of \$7,000

The costs to be sources from the General Funds Surplus for 2024/25.

.....
CR DL JARDINE, CHAIRMAN

9. Carrathool RV Dump Point

Council note the installation and operation of this facility and continue to source funding for power upgrades for a primitive camping area at Carrathool.

10. Old Carrathool Bridge

Consider this a low priority and determine a position of legalities and expenses prior to further consideration.

11. Rankins Springs Birdwatching Trail

No longer actively pursue this as a project.

12. Flat Mountain Track – Bicycle Trails

Consider the project a local project only and proceed should funding become available.

13. Hillston Showground Amenities

Continue to work with the Hillston Show Society and Jockey Club to source funds and opportunities for improvement.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr JB Parsons

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee – Chairman’s Report

0101 RESOLVED that Council note the Carrathool Shire Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Chairpersons report from the committee meeting held 4 December 2024.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr MS Armstrong / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

12.0 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORTS

CLOSED COUNCIL 2.30 pm

0102 RESOLVED that Council resolve into closed council pursuant to Section 10A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, to consider the closed Council reports.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr JB Parsons

12.1 Australia Day Awards 2024

0103 RESOLVED that Council:

1. determine the 2024 Australia Day Award recipients and
2. note these determinations are embargoed until 26 January 2025.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr GJ Peters / Seconded: Cr B Furner

2.44 pm Community Development & Project Manager and the Community Development Officer left the meeting.

12.2 Tabbita Lane – Rural Driveway Entrance

0104 RESOLVED that Council note the status of the non-compliance with the Development Application and that future Development Applications will not be accepted without compliance with conditions of the Development Application.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr B Furner / Seconded: Cr DP Fensom

12.3 Water Issues – Purchase Additional Supply

0105 RESOLVED that Council:

1. purchase 200 ML of high security water from the Murrumbidgee River System.
2. defer any purchase of water within the Lachlan River System until further consideration.
3. make the appropriate changes within internal reserves to reflect this resolution.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr B Furner / Seconded: Cr NJ Smith

OPEN COUNCIL 3.23 pm

0106 RESOLVED that Council return to open Council.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr JB Parsons

CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT

The resolutions of Council made while the meeting was closed to the public were read to the open Council meeting by the General Manager.

.....
CR DL JARDINE, CHAIRMAN

CARRIED

Moved: Cr HJ Lyall / Seconded: Cr JB Parsons

13.0 Next Meeting

The next **Ordinary Meeting** of Council will be held at the **Hillston District Office** on **18 February 2025** commencing at **10.00 am**.

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 3.27 pm.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Carrathool Shire Council held on Tuesday 17 December 2024 were confirmed at the subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 18 February 2025.

.....
Chairman of the Meeting of the Carrathool Shire Council held on Tuesday, 18 February 2025, at which meeting the above signature was subscribed.