

Bland Shire Council
Minutes
Ordinary Council Meeting
21 July 2020

CONFIRMED



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
A guiding checklist for Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committees

Ethical Decision Making

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Could your possible conflict of interest lead to private gain or loss at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

Conflict of Interest

- A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. There are two types of conflict: Pecuniary – regulated by the Local Government Act and Office of Local Government and, Non-pecuniary – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only).

The test for conflict of interest

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of "corruption" – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest

Identifying Problems

1st - Do I have private interest affected by a matter I am officially involved in?

2nd - Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter?

3rd - Do my private interests conflict with my official role?

Whilst seeking advice is generally useful, the ultimate decision rests with the person concerned.

Agency Advice

Officers of the following agencies are available during office hours to discuss the obligations placed on Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committee members by various pieces of legislation, regulation and Codes.

Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Bland Shire Council	6972 2266	council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au	www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999 Toll Free: 1800 463 909	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
Office of Local Government	4428 4100	olg@olg.nsw.gov.au	www.olg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

21 July 2020

commencing at 6:30PM

Council advises that an audio recording of the proceedings of this meeting were taken and are publicly available on the website.

1.0 OPENING MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The meeting was opened by the Mayor with the welcome and introduction at 6.30pm.

2.0 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

2.1 Attendance

Councillors

Cr Bruce Baker
Cr Rodney Crowe
Cr Penny English
Cr Kerry Keatley
Cr Tony Lord
Cr Liz McGlynn
Cr Brian Monaghan
Cr Murray Thomas
Cr Jan Wyse

Staff

Acting General Manager – Will Marsh
Director Corporate & Community Services – Alison Balind
Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.2 Apologies

General Manager – Ray Smith

2.3 Applications for a leave of absence by Councillors

Nil

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 16 June 2020

- **Corrections** - Nil
- **Business Arising** - Nil
- **Confirmation**

Recommendation:

01072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Keatley seconded Cr Thomas that the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 16 June 2020 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED Unanimously

4.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor/ Officer	Item	Nature of Interest	How Managed
Cr McGlynn	8.2 – Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program	Non-Pecuniary	Verbal Disclosure
Mayor Monaghan	8.2 – Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program	Non-Pecuniary	Verbal Disclosure

5.0 PRESENTATION(S) AND PUBLIC FORUM

5.1 Mr Andrew Bartlett, West Wyalong Tennis Club

Mr Bartlett thanked Council for the opportunity to address them as President of the Tennis Club. He provided an overview of their plans and grant opportunities for improvements at the complex stating that the Club is seeking additional funds from Council to complete the entire scope of works.

5.2 Thunderstruck Space

The Mayor welcomed representatives from Thunderstruck Space, Mr Robert Brand, Mr Bruce Boler and Mr Denis O'Dea and invited them to address Council. An overview of the range of projects and works undertaken by the company was provided. Information on the project partners and details of future plans, in particular the development of a base within the Bland Shire for the StratoDrone project was discussed. An opportunity for questioning was available and the Mayor thanked the representatives for their presentation and exciting opportunities for the Shire.

6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

Nil

7.0 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Recommendation:

02072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Wyse seconded Cr Thomas that the Council receive and note the delegate and committee reports from Councillors and Committee meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED Unanimously

7.1 Goldenfields Water County Council

Cr McGlynn provided an overview of information circulated to Councillors following the recent pressure study undertaken in West Wyalong. It was noted that current pressure ratings are within the minimum standards with significant upgrade works required to increase pressure.

7.2 Riverina Joint Organisation

Cr Lord queried the determination of the ongoing operations of the JO and involvement of Wagga Wagga City Council.

8.0 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Section 1 - Office of the General Manager

8.1 Contractual Arrangements of Senior Staff as at 30 June 2020

Recommendation:

03072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Crowe seconded Cr Baker that the information relating to the current contractual arrangements for senior staff at 30 June 2020, is received and noted.

CARRIED Unanimously

8.2 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

Recommendation:

04072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McGlynn seconded Cr Keatley that the attached schedules be adopted for the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure funding program.

CARRIED 8/1 (Crs Baker, Crowe, English, Keatley, McGlynn, Thomas, Wyse and Monaghan voting for and Cr Lord voting against)

8.3 Fight Cancer Foundation's Hilltop Accommodation Centre

Recommendation:

05072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Wyse seconded Cr Thomas that the request for financial assistance to the Fight Cancer Foundation's Hilltops Accommodation Centre be received and noted with no further action.

CARRIED Unanimously

8.4 Elite Sports People Grant – Southern Sports Academy

Recommendation:

06072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Lord seconded Cr McGlynn that Council fund the \$1000 requested from SSA from the Strengthening Communities Grant Fund to ensure funds remain in the Elite Sports People Grant Program for local athletes.

CARRIED Unanimously

Section 2 – Corporate & Community Services

8.5 Finance and Investment Report For June 2020

Recommendation:

07072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Thomas seconded Cr Lord:

- 1. That Council receive and note the information contained within the Finance and Investment Report for the month of June 2020**
- 2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 June to 30 June 2020, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$1,923,656.79.**

CARRIED Unanimously

8.6 Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Recommendation:

08072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McGlynn seconded Cr Crowe:

- 1. That in accordance with Section 248 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council fix the annual fee for Councillors at the maximum amount allowable, being \$12,160 per Councillor for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.**
- 2. That in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council fix the annual fee for the Mayor at the maximum amount allowable, being \$26,530 for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.**

CARRIED Unanimously

Section 3 – Technical Services

8.7 Roads Program 2020 - 2021

Recommendation:

09072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McGlynn seconded Cr Lord that Bland Shire Council adopt the attached 2020 – 2021 roads program with the understanding that the works may be changed by the Director Technical Services due to factors such as changing priorities; changing income and costs; and the weather.

CARRIED Unanimously

8.8 Plant Replacement Program 2020 - 2021

Recommendation:

10072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Baker seconded Cr Thomas that Bland Shire Council note and adopt the replacement of the major plant outlined in the report.

CARRIED Unanimously

8.9 Request for Addition of Council Roads to Nature Reserves

Recommendation:

11072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Lord seconded Cr Keatley that Council resolve to approve the request from National Parks and Wildlife to incorporate the identified road corridor into adjacent nature reserves.

CARRIED 8/1 (Crs Baker, Crowe, English, Keatley, Lord, Thomas, Wyse and Monaghan voting for and Cr McGlynn voting against)

Section 4 – Reports for Information

Recommendation:

12072020 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Wyse seconded Cr Lord that the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- **8.10 - Economic Development & Tourism Report – July 2020**
- **8.11 - Community Services Report**
- **8.12 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update**
- **8.13 - Children’s Services Monthly Update**
- **8.14 - Bland Community Care Services Update**
- **8.15 - Assets & Engineering Services Report**
- **8.16 - Development Services Activity Report – May 2020**

CARRIED Unanimously

9.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE
Nil

10.0 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS
Nil

11.0 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING
There being no further business the meeting then closed at 7.49pm.

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Chairperson