



Bland Shire Council

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

19 March 2019



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	dlq@dlq.nsw.gov.au	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au



Council Meeting Minutes

19 March 2019

commencing at 6:31PM

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The meeting was opened by the Mayor with the welcome and introduction at 6.31pm.

2.0 ATTENDANCE

2.1 Councillors

Cr Bruce Baker (arrived 6.34pm)
Cr Rodney Crowe
Cr Penny English
Cr Kerry Keatley
Cr Tony Lord
Cr Liz McGlynn
Cr Brian Monaghan
Cr Murray Thomas
Cr Jan Wyse

2.2 Staff

General Manager – Ray Smith
Director Asset & Engineering Services – Will Marsh
Director Corporate, Community, Development & Regulatory Services – Adele Casey
Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.3 Apologies

Cr Baker

Recommendation:

01032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Wyse seconded Cr Keatley that the apologies submitted by Cr Baker be accepted. CARRIED

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 19 February 2019

- **Confirmation**

Recommendation:

02032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Thomas seconded Cr Crowe that the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19 February 2019 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings. CARRIED

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

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5.0 PUBLIC FORUM

5.1 Mr Craig Fawcett, Evolution Cowal Gold Mine

Mr Fawcett addressed Council and provided an update on the Cowal Gold operations.

At this stage, 6.34pm Cr Baker arrived.

Mr Fawcett provided an overview and updates on operations including an increased emphasis on their safety performance, employee locations, community programs and involvement, local spending, project updates on the tail leach, underground exploration and mining application and their current focus areas. It was noted that the Cowal Partnering Program is to be reviewed, the Town Office is to be open from Tuesday – Thursday each week, that there are currently a number of vacant positions and pending approval of the underground operations the prediction for the life of the mine is to 2045.

At this stage, 7.13pm, Mayor Monaghan thanked Mr Fawcett for his address.

6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

7.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

8.0 DELEGATES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

SECTION 1 – DELEGATES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recommendation:

03032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McGlynn seconded Cr Thomas that the Council receive and note the delegate and committee reports from Councillors and Committee meeting minutes as presented. **CARRIED**

9.0 STAFF REPORTS

SECTION 2 – OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

9.1 New Model Code of Meeting Practice for NSW Councils

Recommendation:

04032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Keatley seconded Cr Crowe that Council adopts the draft Model Code of Meeting Practice and the document be placed on public exhibition for the required 42-day period. **CARRIED**

9.2 Riverina Joint Organisations – Adoption of Revenue Policy

Recommendation:

05032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Lord seconded Cr Thomas that Bland Shire Council endorses the content of the Revenue Policy Statement for 2018/19 of the Riverina Joint Organisation. **CARRIED**

9.3 Stronger Country Communities Program - Round 1 Progress Report - March 2019

Recommendation:

06032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McGlynn seconded Cr English that the information regarding the progress of the projects under Round 1 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund is received and noted. **CARRIED**

9.4 Stronger Country Communities Program - Round 2 Progress Report - March 2019

Recommendation:

07032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Crowe seconded Cr Thomas that the information regarding the progress of the projects under Round 2 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund is received and noted. **CARRIED**

9.5 Drought Communities Program – Progress Report for March 2019

Recommendation:

08032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Lord seconded Cr Baker that the General Manager provide monthly reports to Council on the progress of each of the individual projects approved under the 2019 Drought Communities Funding Program. **CARRIED**

9.6 Country Hope West Wyalong ‘HOPE’ sign proposal

Recommendation:

09032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Crowe seconded Cr Thomas that council offer in principle support for the project and assist Country Hope to identify a suitable location and site plan and seek preliminary approvals. **CARRIED**

Recommendation:

10032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Lord seconded Cr McGlynn that Council defer further consideration of the Country Hope proposal until further investigations and development of a detailed concept plan and budget are presented. **CARRIED**

SECTION 3 – CORPORATE, COMMUNITY, DEVELOPMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES

9.7 Financial Statements – February 2019

Recommendation:

11032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Lord seconded Cr Thomas:

- 1. That Council receive and note the statement of Bank Balances, Rates Collections and Investments for the month of February, 2019**
- 2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 February to 28 February 2019, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$3,439,995.22. CARRIED**

SECTION 4 – ASSET & ENGINEERING SERVICES

9.8 Climate Change Risk Assessment

Recommendation:

12032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Crowe seconded Cr Lord that Bland Shire Council adopt the attached Climate Change Risk Assessment Adaption Report as the updated 2019 report. **CARRIED**

9.9 Draft Provision of Pipes for Vehicular Crossings Policy

Recommendation:

13032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McGlynn seconded Cr Thomas that the Council adopt the draft Provision of Pipes for Vehicular Crossings Policy as presented. **CARRIED**

SECTION 5 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Recommendation:

14032019 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Baker seconded Cr Thomas that the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- 9.10 - Economic Development & Tourism Report – February 2019
- 9.11 - Community Services Report
- 9.12 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update
- 9.13 - Children’s Services Monthly Update
- 9.14 - Development Services Activity Report – December 2018
- 9.15 Assets & Engineering Services Report. CARRIED

10.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

11.0 QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr Baker

- Conveyed apologies for his recent absences

Cr Keatley

- Stated that he attended the recent opening of Mr Phil Hill’s project

Cr Thomas

- Sought advice on the submission of a proposal for public access to Lake Cowal
GM advised that the item may be considered during Council’s budget deliberations or presented to Evolution Mining from an individual

Cr English

- Noted the positive implications of the recent business openings

Cr McGlynn

- Agreed with the comment from Cr English
- Conveyed thanks to DAES for attendance at the Quandialla Community Forum
- Suggested investigation into alleged reports of interrupted reticulated water supply to the S&C Sports Club
GM advised that the matter will be taken on notice

Mayor Monaghan

- Stated that the recent openings of the NRMA Charging Station and IOR fuel depot were positive for the area

12.0 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 10A(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
Nil

13.0 RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING
Nil

14.0 CLOSE OF THE MEETING
There being no further business the meeting then closed at 8.02pm.

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Chairperson